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pages 12,22



The face of Yemen terror page 3

Eat fatty food... still stay slim page 15



Dawn Primarolo gets Robinson job

Labour feud claims its third victim

SENIOR members of the Cabinet urged their colleagues last night to draw a line under the most damaging episode of Tony Blair's period of govern-

ment as the mortgage affair claimed its third big casualty. Charlie Whelan, press secretary and chief spin doctor to Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, was forced to resign after continuing accusations that he was the culprit who leaked details of the £373,000 loan to Peter Mandelson from Geoffrey Robinson.

Mr Brown's consolation prize was the promotion of Dawn Primarolo, the former Bennite, to Paymaster General to fill the gap left by Mr Rob-inson. There had been speculation that the job would go to Geoff Hoon, a Blair loyalist, a move that Mr Brown would have resisted. Ms Primarolo: former Financial Secretary, is ... fiercely loyal to Mr Brown est-serving member of his Treasury team.

Wills. Mr Wills, a wealthy independent television producer, has been appointed Trade and Industry Minister, but is taking no salary. However, the two appointments will do little to compensate the Chancellor for losing one of his most powerful supporters in government. Other moves were fairly neutral, with Stephen Timms moving up within the Social Security De-

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, inst

Dublin

Rome Nice

Yienna

Whelan: denied being the source of mortgage leak

partment to replace John Den-

ham as Pensions Minister.

Mr Whelan, 44, returned from a walking holiday in the Scottish Flighlands to announce that he would be leaving the Treasury as soon as the appropriate opportunity becomes available.

He strongly denied that he had said that led

itall of both mini ters, but said that the level of The Chancellor also found a ... media speculation about the afjob for another ally, Michael fair made it impossible for him to carry on as Mr Brown's

The Tories seized on the statement and demanded Mr Whelan's early departure.
They argued that he could not remain and he privy to Budget secrets and urged Sir Richard Wilson, the Cabinet Secretary. to ensure that such access was

stopped.
There were also questions about whether Mr Whelan

would have to wait for three months or longer before being able to take up a a job in the private sector, where there could be a conflict of interest. But with Mr Blair away on holiday in the Seychelles, other senior Cabinet ministers tried to move the focus away from the spin doctors and ministerial rivalries that have dominated the headlines for more than

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, who is said to have been one of several ministers calling for Mr Whelan's removal, said it was time to draw a line under recent events. The key political issue is not obsession with so-called 'spin doctors' or 'camps', but the Government's determination to keep the promises it made to the electorate," he said. That is what the country and Labour party members expect of us and that is what we

intend to do." Downing Street also tried to mount a damage limitation excercise, putting out a supportive statement about Mr Whelan, who has been widely accused in the past of briefing against Cabinet ministers.

But there was an almost audible sigh of relief from several members of the Government who have blamed Mr Whelan for creating unnecessary tensions between Mr Blair and Mr Brown over the

Mr Whelan decided to resign after several conversa-



tions with Mr Brown and Ed Balls, the Chancellor's economic adviser, but his fate was in evitable as soon as he was "fingered" by friends of Mr Man-delson on the night the home loan was disclosed in the press. Yesterday Mr Whelan said that it became impossible for

him to stay in his job once he became the story. "It is absurd that, on the day

the euro starts trading, in the week the Monetary Policy Committee is meeting and when the Chancellor is working on a number of important initiatives for the new year.

there is such attention focused on me." Mr Brown, who was said to have been desolate at his press secretary's resignation, refused to comment.

> Welan crisis, pages 6, 7 Michael Gove, page 16

Markets rally as the world shows faith in the euro

By Charles Bremner and Jill Sherman

EUROPE'S fledgeling currency was celebrated by the financial markets in a day's trading that saw it rise against the dollar while continental stock markets enjoyed near-

record surges. European Union leaders greeted the smooth launch in the City, the Continent, Wall Street and Asia as a sign of confidence that the 11-nation euro is set to be a world currency alongside the dollar.

This is an historic day." said Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission. "Let us for once congratulate ourselves without too much modesty. With the euro, Eurone will be better equipped to control its destiny." Gerhard Schröder, the Ger-

man Chancellor, hailed the euro's advent, saying: "I know that it will make Europe move forward and it will force us into new stages of integration." Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister, said the successful first day was "a moment in the history of Europe that was considered impossible just ten years ago."

The single currency, which has a domestic economic base comparable to the dollar's, ended European trading at around 1.18 dollars, well above the 1.16 level which was held last week by the ecu, the EU basket currency that was its predecessor. The EU hopes the euro will not strengthen too much, given the damage it would inflict on euroland's exports. The European Central Bank (ECB) was rumoured at one stage yesterday to have in-

tervened to support the dollar. The City, which bore the brunt of the switchover as the world centre of currency trad-Leading article, page 17 ing, missed out on the "euro-

Britain, the most powerful of the four EU states outside the euro, imposed its will on the currency in an indirect fashion. The Commission bowed to the usage adopted by the Bank of England and decreed that the plural for curo in English would end in "s". The notes and coins, to be issued in three years, carry only the word "euro".

phoria" which swept the Continent's stock markets. The FTSE 100-share index ended 0.05 per cent down while Milan toasted the currency with a record 6.4 per cent rise. Frankfurt shares rose 5.7 per cent, Madrid by 6.2 per cent and Paris by 5.2 per cent.

The United States welcomed the euro, signalling nervousness over pressure on the domestic economy as the dollar's hegemony as the international currency comes under challenge. Robert Rubin, the Treasury Secretary, said: "The euro re-emphasises how important it is that we focus on our own policies and continue to make the United States a place where people want to invest their capital by having sound policies here."

Tony Blair welcomed the first day of trading with a commitment to helping the single European currency to succeed. in an article in The Wall Street Journal the Prime Minister said: "If the euro works and the economic benefits are clear and unambiguous, we would recommend entry, with the British people having a final say in a referendum." The views were seen as his most pro-euro statements.

> Living with euro, page 10 Letters, page 17 Markets soar, page 23

Hospitals swamped by flu victims dialling 999

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

TV & RADIO ____42,43 WEATHER _____22 CROSSWORDS 22.44 LETTERS TO OBITUARIES 18-CHESS & BRIDGE ... 39 COURT & SOCIAL18 BODY & MIND 14
LAW REPORT 38 BUSENESS 23-27

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PANICKING flu patients are precipitating a crisis in the oversitetched health service by making 999 calls to demand ambulances to take them to hospital. Although the levels are not abnormally high, health trusts are reporting emergency units at full stretch dealing with an

influx of patients brought in by ambulance.
Dr Doug Fleming, who heads the Royal College of General Practitioners' infectious diseases monitoring unit in Birmingham, said: "Hospitals are the wrong place for flu patients. There is no curative treatment for flu and there is no point in going to see your doctor let alone going to hospital unless you have a serious

chest disease or are elderly and living on your own. Going to hospital iputs other sick peo-ple at risk soft is an irresponsible and selfish thing to do." meningitis had to be airlifted Perhaps because GPs are nearly 200 miles from Birkenonly sending the most serious head on Merseyside to Mid-

cases to hospital, patients are short-circuiting their doctors' waiting rooms and trying to get themselves admitted. This adds to the difficulties accident and emergency units are al-ready facing in finding ade-quate staff and leads to many

really ill people being left for hours on trollies. Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said that the number of flu cases was putting hospitals under pressure, especially in the North West and West Midlands.

Ambulances were having to queue for 15 minutes outside the Royal Liverpool Hospital to unload flu patients. At the Royal Hull Hospital there were 38 patients crammed into a ward for 28 on one day last month. London Ambulance Service had 115 flu calls on two. days over the holidays. Yesterday a woman with

dlesbrough in the North East because there were no intensive care beds available. In Nottingham nurses are being offered 20 per cent extra to work on the admissions ward.

The pressures are coming because hospitals, already suffering from nursing shortages. are losing more staff through the illness and are finding it all but impossible to staff the extra beds. Although the Government has earmarked £159 million to deal with the winter crisis, hospitals cannot recruit the nurses they need.

Officially there is no flu epidemic until over 400 cases per 100,000 of the population are confirmed to have the disease in a given week. Flu levels this year are following a similar pattern to those in the winter of 1996/97, when they peaked at 230 cases per 100,000.

This year the level on December 15 was just 28 cases per 100,000 but by New Year's Eve it had almost quadrupled



quickly — I'm about to sneeze" to 102 per 100,000. The next set

of figures are expected to show

a further rise, especially in the

Sydney and Beijing flu, the two strains of the disease prevalent this year, appear to be spreading down from Scotland, where doctors began to notice a sharp rise from mid-November. The latest regional figures - issued on Christmas Eve - show there were 113 cases per 100,000 in the North, 103 per 100,000 in the Midlands and only 41 per 100,000 in the South.

'Bombsite bird' threatens to stop work on the Dome

BY GLENN OWEN, TIMES DIARY

WORK on the Millennium Dome could be halted bythree pairs of black redstarts, one of Britain's rarest nesting birds. They have arrived at the construction site in Greenwich and it is against the law to disturb the "bombsite birds" once they begin nesting-due to happennext month.

Wildlife campaigners are demanding that Peter Mandel-son's successor as Minister for the Dome - Lord Palconer of Thoroton -- casts an eye over the Wildlife and Countryside Act. "They will have to stop working," says Ralph Gaines. head of conservation at the London Wildlife Trust. "The Act is clear that it would be illegal to disturb them. They will start nesting at the end of February, and the young do not leave until the end of July. We did stop some work in the area at the end of last summer when a pair were spotted."

Redstarts - relatives of the Hospital alert, page 8 name after flourishing on dere-

lict sites after the Second World War - are a threatened species. As few as 70 breeding pairs remain in the country. up to a third of which live in the capital and are known to be resident in nearby Dept-ford Creek. Three pairs are house-hunting in the construc-

tion site area. The bird famously distracted Norman Lamont during the 1991 Maastricht negotiations. Then Chancellor, he told an alarmed Hans-Dietricht Genscher, at the time Germany's Foreign Minister, that a redstart had just flown past. Herr Genscher



Black redstart in danger

was apparently reassured that at such a precarious moment for Europe, Mr Lamont took such a characteristically British delight in nature.

Mike Everett, from the RSPB, has comforting words for the Dome's organisers: The Act protects the bird, but it does allow them to be disturbed as 'the incidental result of a lawful action that could not have been avoided', so it depends on compromise."

The New Millennium Ex-perience Company, which birders claim has banned them from the site, said: "We are aware that these birds have nested in the area and will take their rarity into account when deciding how to deal with them if they do so on the site this year."

Their arrival comes at a bad time for the £758 million Dome. The roof is on, but the work schedule is tight. It is, however, a home indeed for redstarts - they love "untidy,

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New rules **'threaten** care home closures'

Alexandra Frean on plans to ensure

bigger rooms and better facilities

HUNDREDS of residential care homes for the elderly could be forced to close if national standards on room size and bathroom facilities are introduced.

In a survey of 400 independent care homes, 64 per cent of respondents said that they would be forced to close if the proposed standards, drawn up by the Centre for Policy on

Ageing, became law. Under the proposals, all single rooms must have no less than 10 sq m of useable space. but if a residential home changes hands, all single rooms must be extended to include an extra 2 sq m. Shared rooms will have to have 16 sq m of useable space. All newly registered homes will have to have en suite wash-

ing and toilet facilities. Geoff Hodgson, editor of Caring Times magazine, which conducted the survey, said that smaller privately owned homes would be affected most by the changes. Owners of such homes often

planned to sell them on retire-ment and live off the proceeds but the imposition of the new standards would in many cases make it impossible to sell the homes as on-going business concerns as their rooms would be considered too small to meet the minimum requirements.

Thousands of elderly could find themselves without beds in the short term if homes are forced to close. Thousands of jobs may be lost." Mr Hodgson said.

The survey follows the resig-nation last month of Sheila Scott, chief executive of the National Care Homes Association, from the advisory board of the Centre for Policy on Ageing in protest at the proposed standards, which she called "an unprecedented attack on

the private sector". The proposed standards are due to be discussed by John Hutton, the Health Minister. and the Centre for Policy on Ageing at a meeting later this

Viagra sales fail to take off in Ireland

IRISH men are either very virile or exceptionally shy, (Audrey Magee writes). Initial reports show that demand for Viagra, the anti-impotence drug, is far lower than expected in the country where it is

The drug became available to the Irish public at the end of September, But pharmacies across the country report few if any sales. O'Connells, one of Treland's largest chain of retail pharmacies, has issued fewer than 100 prescriptions in Dublin in the past three months. We are very surprised. We thought the demand would be far stronger. But it appears

makes the drug in Ringaskid-dy, Co Cork, declined yesterday to disclose their Irish sales figures but insisted that they were in line with expectations.

around £20 million a year.



Tara Palmer-Tomkinson showing off her latest skiwear on the slopes at Klosters

Offer must end

Saturday 9th

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Don't miss it!

William misses royal ski holiday

By Alan Hamilton

THE Prince of Wales began his annual skiing holiday at Klosters in the Swiss Alps yes-terday, but with a depleted family party.

He was accompanied by his younger son, Prince Harry, but Prince William had elected to stay at bome and is understood to be spending time with friends in Scot-land. The 16-year-old Prince is a less enthusiastic skier than his father and younger brother, and dislikes the media attention the royal party inevitably attracts.

Zara Phillips, daughter of the Princess Royal, was to have been in the party but had to postpone her departure because of flu. She hopes to be well enough to join her uncle and cousin later.

The princes, who flew into Zurich on Sunday on a BAc 146 aircraft of the Royal Squadron, have been joined by their regular companion, Tiggy Legge-Bourke, the young princes former nanny, and by Tara Palmer-Tomkinson, who appeared on the slopes yesterday to show off her designer ski wear to photographers. It included her trademark white "Tara" hat and a one-piece navy blue ski suit and jacket by designer

Miss Palmer-Tomkinson, whose parents are long-time skiing companions of the Prince and whose mother narrowly escaped death in the Klosters avalanche that killed one of the Prince's aides, also disclosed that she was wearing designer underwear by Agent Provocateur and several layers of cash-

mere cardigans. Today the princes will, as in previous years, pose briefly on the slopes for an arranged photocall in the hope that cameramen will then leave them alone until they re-

turn to Britain on Sunday. But media attention has already intruded on their holiday. A Swiss news magazine has put up a huge poster near the ski runs showing the Prince of Wales, apparently naked, peering over the top of a screen. The German caption translates as: "Not even the Prince of Wales can hide any secrets from us."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Blair off to Kuwait and South Africa

The Prime Minister is to visit Kuwait to meet the RAF crews who played a crucial part in the bombing raids on Iraq two who prayed a crucial part in the bolibing raids on trackand weeks ago. Next Saturday Tony Blair, on his way back from an official visit to South Africa, will stop off at the Ali Al Salem air base to meet the personnel who flew the 12 Tornado

In air base to meet the personnet with new the 12 tornator GRI jets during Operation Desert Fox. The Prime Minister is also expected to meet leading Kniwait diplomats to try to persuade them to allow the Tornadojets to operate as bombers again. Mr Blair will be collected tomorrow morning from the Seychelles, where he has been holidaying with his wife and family, before flying to Pretoria for the start of his first visit to South Africa since he heaving Prime Minister. became Prime Minister.

Prison fires injure 16

Sixteen prison officers were injured by fires started by in-maies at Maghaberry prison in Northern Ireland. They suf-fered smoke inhalation after prisoners lit four fires on Sunday and two on New Year's Eve. Another officer was treated for minor burns after tea was thrown over him. The prisoners started the fires to protest at being locked in cells for longer than usual. A Prison Service spokesman said that the lock-ups were necessary because of staff shortages.

Stun gun man jailed

A man who tried to sell stun guns used by American police was jailed for six months. The hand-held guns, which are capable of producing 100,000 volts and have led to a number of deaths, are legally used for self-defence in America. However, a judge at Warwick Crown Court rejected a suggestion by Peter Hawketts, 32, who had imported 100 stun guns worth E1,200, that he was unaware they were illegal in Britain. He ordered them in Florida to sell to women for self-defence.

Spacecraft on course

A \$138 million spacecraft lost by mission controllers last month was back on course for its historic rendezvous with an asteroid. On Sunday the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezyous satelline's rocket engines were successfully fired, boosting its speed by more than 2,000mph to 43,000mph. The craft, more than 200 million miles from Earth, is now chasing the asteroid, named Eros, and should catch up with it in

Stalker barred again

The first man to be convicted of stalking is back in prison for harassing the same woman while on parole. Anthony Burstow, 39, of Slough, Berkshire, was jailed for 16 weeks for pestering Tracey Morgan, 30, after serving 15 months of a three-year sentence. Magistrates at Bracknell also served a restraining order banning Burstow from entering Berkshire and prohibiting him from having any contact with Ms Morgan, her family or friends, indefinitely.

Lawyer in the drink

A solicitor specialising in alcohol-related cases is advertising his service on beer mats in pubs. Andy Lyall, from Dundee, has angered the Law Society of Scotland which claims that his promotional ploy is "not in accordance with the digmity of the profession." Mr Lyall, 52, said it was "eminently sensible" because many of his clients get into trouble because of drink. The beer mats bear his photograph, phone number and address with the words "Defence Lawyer"

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not," said a spokeswoman. Pfizer, the company that

The Government had origi nally predicted that 18,000 Irishmen would want the drug, costing the exchequer

By MICHAEL HARVEY

SIXTEEN months after her death, the Princess of Wales has taken her place on a coin of the realm.

The new £5 commemorative com, which is to be unveiled by the Royal Mint today, is the first of four official memorials to the Princess. It features an elegant portrait in profile by the distinguished sculptor David Cornell, and on the reverse is a portrait of the

Widely seen as the most simple and tasteful of the memorial schemes, the coin is described as a "Crown". More than 10 million, in various editions, are expected to be sold worldwide. Millions of pounds in profits will be used to fund the other official memorial projects, such as children's nursing teams, community awards for schoolchildren and

the scaled-down memorial gar-dens near Kensington Palace. The cupro-nickel alloy version of the coin is available from today from large post offices in a presentation folder for £9.95. The presentation packaging features previous tributes to the Princess from the Queen and Earl Spencer, as well as a poem that was read by her sister, Lady Jane Fellowes, at the Princess's fu-

to coin honours Princess

Gold and silver versions of the coins priced at £595 and £32.50 will be available from April. The £5 legal tender version will be issued on July 1, the anniversary of the Princess's birthday.

The Royal Mint will produce as many coins as are needed to meet public demand. The mint expects that most people will buy the coin as a keepsake, and only a few are expected to go into general circulation.

The coin's design was approved by the Royal Mint Advisory Committee, chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh. It was also passed by the government body in charge of official me-morials to the Princess, the Diana Memorial Committee, which is chaired by Gordon

Brown, the Chancellor. Representatives of the royal household and the Princess's sister, Lady Sarah McCorquo-



The £5 coin issued today

dale, also sit on the committee. Mr Brown said yesterday: 'The Diana Memorial Committee received over 10,000 suggestions from people from. all walks of life.

"I know that many people want a fitting and lasting reminder of Diana, Princess of Wales. I am sure that this official commemorative coin will be treasured by the people of Great Britain."

The amount of profit to be donated to memorial projects will be at least £75 per gold coin, E5 per silver coin and E3 per base-metal version.

Mr Cornell, 63, a former engraver at the Royal Mint, is a fellow of the Royal Society of

British Sculptors. His portrait of the Princess was chosen because it was the most elegant and simple of several designs

Today's release is not the first time that the Princess has featured in the "Crown" series of coins, which is now issued annually by the Royal Mint. She had previously ap-peared with the Prince of Wales in 1981 in a coin to com-

memorate their wedding. That coin sold nearly 9 million copies, but at the then lower face value price of 25p, the equivalent of five shillings.

miomorrow

The obverse side of the latest E5 coin displays the portrait of the Queen which appears on all UK coins minted from January 1998. It was designed by the sculptor Ian Rank Broad-

When the idea of a commenorative coin was first mooted friends of the Princess noted she would have laughed at the irony of seeing herself sharing a coin with her former motherin-law.

Last night the reality was deemed a fitting tribute by her brother Earl Spencer. Netlink: www.royalmint.com

Straw joins Blair in holiday controversy

By Victoria Fletcher and Michael Horsnell

THE Home Secretary is allowing his daughter to miss school for a family holiday, it emerged last night as the Prime Minister came under further criticism for failing to deliver his children for the start of term.

Jack Straw's daughter did not arrive for the first day of term yesterday because she was still on boliday abroad with her parents, according to fellow sixth-formers at her school in Central London. The whereabouts of the Straw family could not be officially con-firmed for security reasons.

At the weekend the Prime Minister was accused of undermining David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, who recently gave warning that pu-pils should not miss school for holidays in term-time. Mr

Blair's sons are expected to start term 24 hours late at the London Oratory today, while their sister will be similarly late arriving at her primary school in Highbury. Mrs Blair wrote to the re-spective head teachers before

the family set off for their holiday in the Seychelles to ex-plain that the children would miss the start of term today. David Hart, leader of the National Association of Head Teachers, said that Downing Street's response missed the point. "It is not up to parents merely to tell a school that they will be missing a day of school," he said. They have to ask. If they don't get permission from the head teacher, but still keep their child away, that is unanthorised absence."

Education Secretary, called for an explanation. What is the truth? If permission for the boys absence from school this week was not sought by Mrs Blair, as the headmaster, Mr. McIntosh, claims, this raises very serious questions about the express information issued by the Downing Street spin-machine." John McIntosh, head of the London Oratory,

was not available for comment on when the Blairs told him about their holiday arrangements - or whether he had approved the children's absence.

A Downing Street spokes-man warned: 'The children have a right to privacy and there is a serious danger here of intrusion. The specifics of the communication should be a matter between the family. David Willetts, the Shadow and the schools."

20% rise in prison suicides

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE number of prisoners who killed themselves in jails in England and Wales last year tose by more than a lifth to 83. The increase came as the total prison population rose by about 7 per cent to an average of 65,300.

Richard Tilt, the retiring Director-General of the Prison Service, said the suicide increase was partially caused by the growing numbers in jail-He added: Not all suicides are preventable and there are no simple solutions, but it is clear that we have a long way to go in tackling a problem which is mirrored in outside society." In 1997, the suicide total at the 135 jails was 68 -

The Howard League for Pe nal Reform said that nine of the dead were under 18.

ه كذا من رالإمل

Kidnap gang planned to bomb British targets

Officials were not told of arrests, reports Daniel McGrory. Photographs: Peter Nicholls

THE leader of the gang that kidnapped 16 Western tourists in Yemen had been planning to bomb British targets in Aden five days earlier.

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Abu Hassan wanted to ex-change the hostages for threebombers police arrested as they were about to launch simultaneous attacks at five locations, including the British Consulate. The three, who were using fake British pass-ports, also planned to blow up the Anglican church and the Aden Hotel, where the surviving hostages were taken. Scotland Yard detectives

who arrived in Aden last night hope to discover more about the bombing operation, and the gun battle in which four hostages died, when they are allowed to question Hassan. who is being held in chains in

a top security prison.
Yemeni security chiefs say
the gaunt, bearded 28 year-old
was the leader of the three bombers, who were seized as they were priming devices in their room at the cheap, backstreet Al Wafa hotel. The three men, who included a ZI-yearold Iranian, claimed to have arrived in Aden from London.

The list of targets found in room III included a clinic next door to Christ Church and the Royal Hotel, which is used by 35 American soldiers training Yemeni forces in mine clearance. In the cluttered bomb fac-.) tory, police also discovered automatic weapons, grenades and black hoods with eye slits.

General Mohammed Saleh Turaik, head of security for the Henderson, the British Ambas-Aden area, said yesterday: "The men we arrested told us the targets Abu Hassan chose for bombing were very big. Many people would have been killed if he had succeeded. There would have been much more blood than in the kidnapping." He said the three did not know of the kidnap plot. British diplomats in the re-



The brothers arrested with Abu Hassan, Ahmed, left, and Saad Mohammed Ali Atif

gion are furious that the Yemeni authorities did not tell them of, the bomb plot, or the arrests. They would have warned tour groups to stay away from arethan a thin mattress and a as in the south east where Isblanket in his 6ft square, windowless cell.

lamic groups are known to have camps. They also want to know why military escorts were withdrawn from tour convoys driving through the Shabwa and Abyan provinces, where Abu Hassan comes from and where the hostages were ambushed. Diplomatic sources in White hall say Yemen's Interior Min-

ister. Hussein Mohammed Arab, refused to meet Vic sador, until after the bungled raid because he knew that Britain was against the use of force. Britain had wanted to offer the use of the SAS who have a permanent desert base across the border in Oman, a short helicopter flight from where the hostages were being held on a volcanic plateau.

ing held at Zinjubar, 115 miles planned and funded his Al-Jifrom where the hostages were kidnapped on December 28. "There is no doubt there is a There is room for little more foreign influence to all this. There could be a connection

with Osama bin Laden, or someone else," General

Turaik said, referring to the

Saudi billionaire who is want-

ed for bombing American em-

bassies in Kenya and Tanza-nia last year. Bin Laden has

family links with Yemen, and

in the past six months some of

his fighters, forced out of Af-

ghanistan and Sudan, have

could be students of bin Lad-

en, but they are connected to

Hassan. They were trained outside Yemen. Abu Hassan is

a link to a bigger organisa-tion," the general added.

at Al Wafa hotel in Aden's Cra-

ter market district on Decem-

ber 9, paying cash for their

room and saying they had had come from London. They

showed British passports,

Two of the bombers arrived

The bombers we caught

moved there.

In a series of photographs. acquired for The Times with the help of Yerneni security chiefs. Hassan is seen holding the chains that bind his ankles. His captors say Hassan, who is unmarried, has shown no remorse and claim his only regret "was that he did not kill all his hostages".

Hassan, whose real name is Zain al-Abdin Abu Bakar al-Mehdar, faces execution by a shot in the back of the neck after a trial that General Turaik said could be over in 48 hours. The Scotland Yard detectives. who are working with ten FBI investigators, are anxious to interview Hassan, and two brothers who were captured with him, before such swift retribution can be carried out. Last night, Hassan was be - They hope to discover who

were the old fashioned type with hard blue covers: however, this was the first time they had been used.

Malek Mohsen Fadel, who is said by security sources to be a Yerneni, and Hamza Ali Said, a Pakistani, remained in Room III on the second floor for ten days until they were joined by an Iranian, Ahmed Sarmad, who was also travelling on a blue-covered, fake,

British passport. The three left the hotel the following day but checked back in on December 23 at 2.30am, in the same room. Two hours later, police arrived and showed hotel staff a photograph of the Iranian, whom they called Mohsen Galen. Staff led the armed officers to the room, where they are said to have found the men assembling bombs using plastic ex-plosive stuffed into steel pipes.

One of the hotel employees, who helped police to search the room, said they found grenades hidden behind curtains. a small saw, a metal file, electrical wire, detonators, timers and the black boods. There were leaflets about Islamic fundamentalist groups, including Hamas, and eight video cas-settes. Police did not inform any of the targets on the bombers' list about their find.

Roger Bruggink, an Angli-can priest at Christ Church in the Tawahi port area, said: We live with the awareness of the dangers and recognise there are different people with different ideas who will use violence to get their way." Last year, a bomb was found in the church compound, which includes the Ras Morbat clinic, built in 1996. Security was stepped up around the 19th century church and the al-ready well fortified Consulate only after the kidnappings.



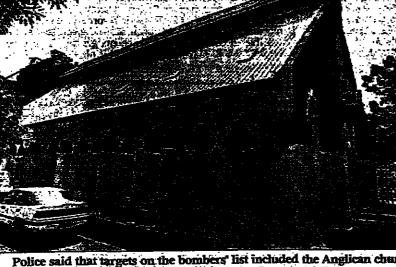
Abu Hassan, being held in chains, led the bomb plot and kidnap gangs, officials say

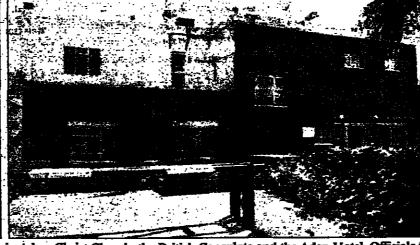
ings on the five targets were revenge for Britain's part in the December air raids on Iraq. The 12 surviving hostages, now back in Britain, will be asked to identify Hassan from photographs that show him looking bedraggled in the same red and orange "futa" and grey and white T-shirt he

The brothers held in the same prison as Hassan, two more of the kidnap gang, also face the death penalty. Ahmed Mohammed Ali Atif and his younger brother, Saad Mohammed Ali Atif, are believed to come from the same area as Hassan, Upper Aulaqi in Shabwa.

Hassan's Al-Jihad group

are known to have funded armed robberies. They include an attack on a security van carrying nine million rivals (£50,000) in teachers' salaries. ☐ Yemen said yesterday it was abandoning its attempt to join the Commonwealth after the diplomatic row with Britain over the hostage killings.







Police said that targets on the bombers' list included the Anglican church in Aden, Christ Church, the British Consulate and the Aden Hotel. Officials failed to warn any of the targets after the would-be bombers were arrested

jam tomorrow

By Susie Steiner

transferring control of the com-pany to staff in a philanthropic move of which its founding father would have been proud.
The firm has supplied the
Royal Household since the

turn of the century from its renowned Tiptree fruit bushes. It is now preparing to give the. workers — from fruit sorters to label stickers - the casting vote in major company deci-sions. The move is designed to protect the firm from predatory buyers after the last family member retires. The chairman, Peter Wilkin, 58, has no heirs, when he leaves, 110 years of family involvement will

come to an end. There are no family members coming along, so when I shuffle off the scene what I wanted to avoid was someone snapping up the company. stripping the assets and throwing everything else away," Mr Wilkin said yesterday "We

THE celebrated jam-maker to the Queen, Wilkin & Sons, is from people to buy the firm but we are not interested in selling. The company name is very valuable and we have a very good reputation, and I want the company to continue

in the same vein. The company has had very strong employee involvement since it started. My great-grand-father was a staunch Non-Conformist and very much into worker participation." Arthur Wilkin established

the firm in the Essex village of Tippree in 1885. An altruistic dent fund to help local people who fell on hard times and was one of the first employers to provide pensions. Tiptree still has 70 company homes, where present or former staff live at reduced rems.

The firm won the Royal Warrant of Approval in 1911, and the jam has been spread on Buckingham Palace toast ever

Workers offered Suicide girl was afraid of bullies

By Russell Jenkins

eight-year-old girl found hanged on Saturday, was frightened by school bullies, her family has revealed. Karen Bentham, the girl's

aunt, said: "Marie said she had been bullied at school and she did not want to go back. Her mum told her not to be so silly and Marie stormed off to bed. When she went to check on her later, she found her with a skipping rope around

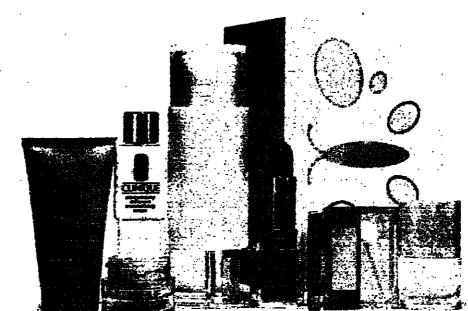
"She pulled it off and rang for an ambulance. The para-medics arrived and did their best, but Marie was pro-nounced dead at the hospital." Both Marie and her young-er sister, Gemma, were pupils

at Moorfield Primary School, near their home in Irlam, Manchester. It is understood that Marie's mother, Debbie Bentham, did not raise the issue of school bullying when she spoke to police about her

MARIE BENTHAM, the Manchester Police said that any allegations regarding bullying would be considered as part of their investigation. John Waish, Marie's head

teacher, described her death as a "terrible tragedy" and said that prayers were said for her during morning assembly. Mark Carriline, Salford City Council's director of education and leisure, said in a statement: "There have been two instances in the last term when Marie's family raised concerns with the school about bullying. These were concerns the school took very seriously

indeed and dealt with promptly and appropriately. in each case the circumstances were fully investigated and the local authority policy was followed to the letter. Neither of those instances involved anything out of the ordi-nary. They reflected the type of concerns that many parents raise during the course of the



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Cocker pulps plans for Disco 2000

BY ALEX O'CONNELL

z JARVIS COCKER is clamping down on plans to use Disco 2000 as the soundtrack to the millennium.

The lead singer of Pulp has asked his record company, Island Records, to send notice to television producers who might have been planning to use the song. Phill Savidge, of Savage & Best, the PR

company that represents the band, said: They don't want it to be used for various

again at a few shows."

The song's chorus, "Let's all meet up in

the year 2000/won't it be strange when we're all fully grown?", makes it a natural millennium soundtrack.

Mr Savidge, who acknowledged that bands could earn about \$50,000 for the use of their music in a television advertisement, said: "Pulp are obviously makthey want to keep it a bit special.

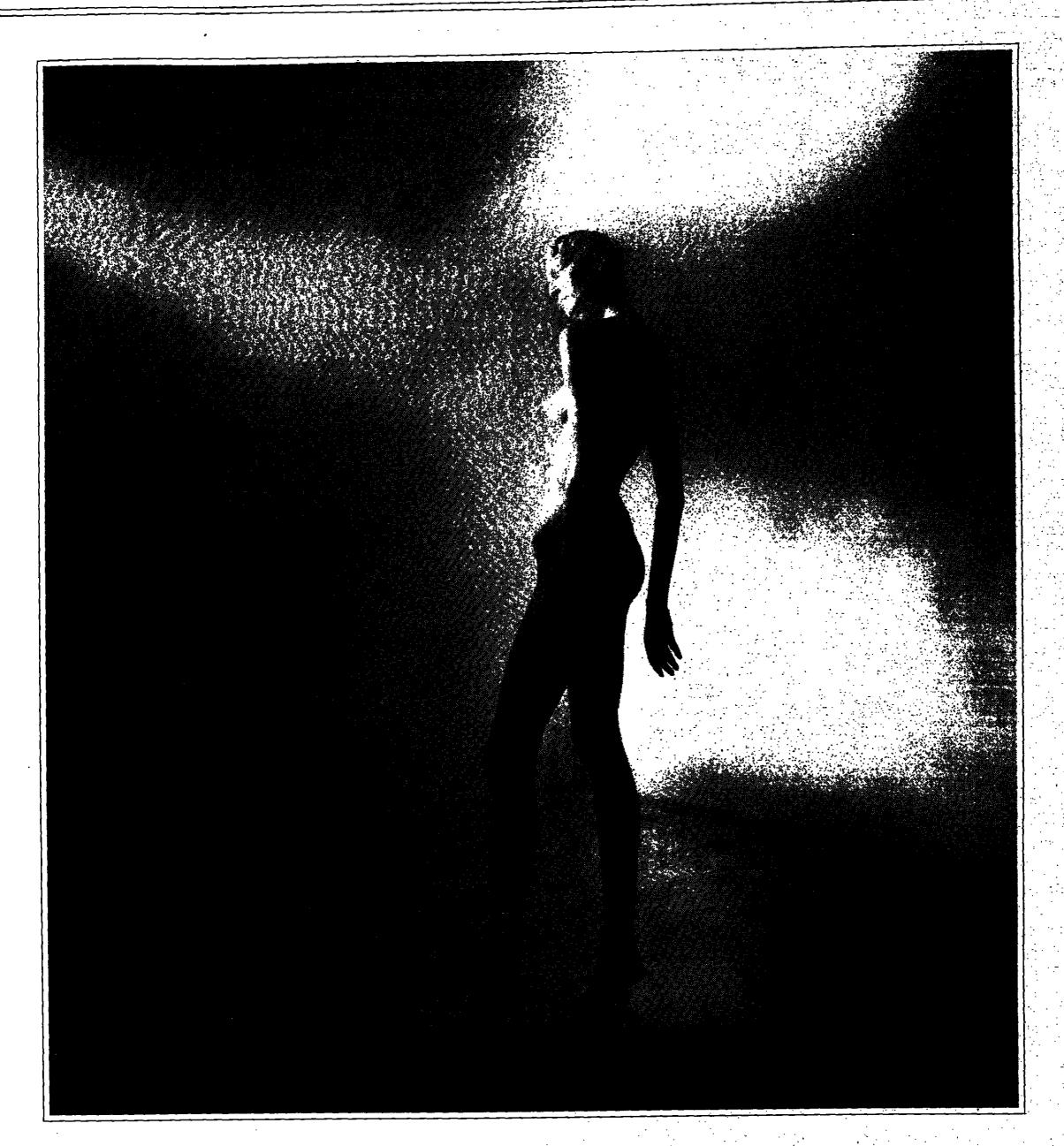
"It's not that they're being precious.

"It's not that they're being precious that it will be more lucrative this way. The band night want to stop it being sold to TV now so that they can become multi-millionaires in the full that it will be more lucrative. tive this way. The band might want to " of the song. "It doesn't really make any

now they have started performing it ture." He added that the single was now hard to obtain, but he did not rale out the possibility of the band repackaging and re-releasing it this year.

certainly too early to tell if the track is gogrammes would still be in production." Kathrya Kelly, BBC spokesperson for

millennium programming, said that it would not matter if Cocker prevented use difference to us. There is a lot of other mucan become multi-millionaires in the fu-sic that would be relevant."



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Power lines hit and roads shut in 80mph gales

By TIM JONES AND SHIRLEY ENGLISH

GALES gusting at more than 80mph battered Scotland Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic yesterday, bringing down power lines. The storm led to the death of a 74-year-old man, who drowned when he was blown

into the River Almond at Cramond, outside Edinburgh... The west coast of Scotland bore the brunt of the storm. More than 13,000 homes were without electricity as falling trees, weakened by the Boxing Day storms, brought down lines in Dumfriesshire.

Kintyre and Perthshire. Engineers worked to reconnect customers, but in some areas the southwesterly winds made work on overhead lines dangerous and repairs were suspended. ScottishPower and Hydro Electric said that they hoped to have most customers reconnected by today. The A78 between Largs and

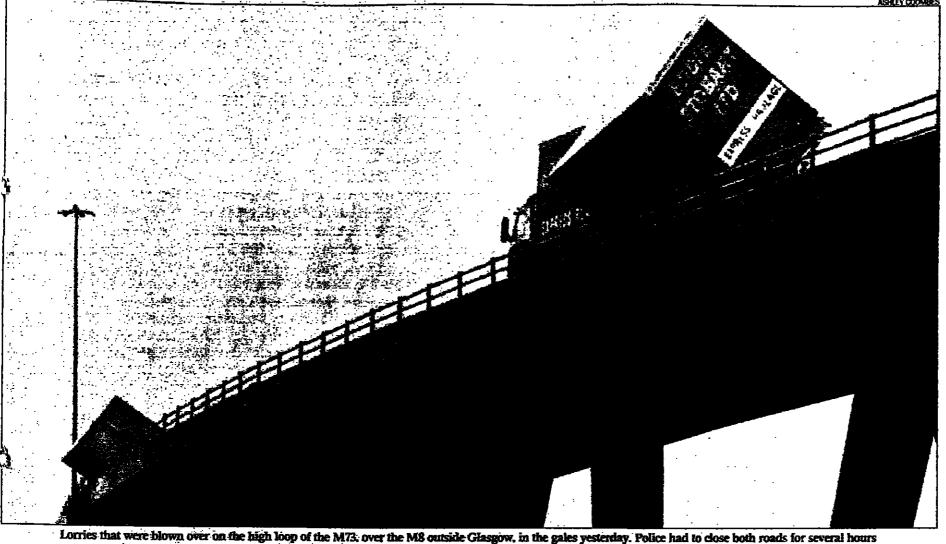
Skelmorlie was closed by flooding caused by high tides in the Clyde. An alternative route was closed because of fallen

trees. The Forth and Tay road bridges were closed to highsided vehicles and caravans for most of the day. Fallen trees and flying debris forced the closure of minor roads.

The MS on the edge of Glasgow was closed for several blown over and smashed into crash barriers on the overhead A73 looproad at Bailliesson Interchange. Flights out of Glasgow and Edinburgh airports were cancelled. East-coast trains were delayed as wires were brought down, and ferry services to Northern Ireland and the Scottish islands were cancelled.

The gales, which over the weekend claimed at least two lives, also caused chaos in Northern Ireland where more than 2,000 people were last night still without electricity.

In the Irish Republic, rescurumed a search for a couple feared swept out to sea from cliffs in west Cork.



Head 'got away with abusing children'

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

A HEADMASTER who was should be treated "with cauyesterday accused of sexually abusing children had survived more than a decade of police and social services inquiries fore action was taken to bar dm from teaching.

Robin Lindsay, the headborne Preparatory School in: Dorset for 26 years, was forced to resign last May after he was served with a notice of complaint by the Department for Education and Employment

But an independent schools tribunal was told yesterday. that he had first been warned by police about "inappropriate behaviour 12 years earlier. Parents, however, repeatedly rallied to his support, attributing his behaviour to eccentricity.

A succession of reports by po-lice and social services criti-eged Mr Lindsay's habit of sucrising the boys and girls showers at the school, which takes children aged between six and 13. He was said to have showered with boys and to have weighed members of the rugby team naked, forbidding them to cover their genitals.

David Elvin, for the DfEE, said Mr Lindsay was accused of assaults over several years, fitting the pattern of a persist-ent child abuser. The most seri-ous involved an allegation of buggery of an eight-year-old boy, although Mr Elvin acknowledged that this evidence



Lindsay: was forced to resign last May

tion" since the boy was subsequently expelled for trying to burn down a building.

Mr Eindsay, 70, triggered has since been taken over by anindependent trust. He was unable to challenge the evidence after withdrawing his appeal to

spare the school publicity but after the hearing yesterday he desied file allegation of buggery or any sexual impropriety.

The first inquiry into Mr. Lindsay: stewardship took place in 1985. Eight years later he was interviewed by police for more than three hours. But it was not until Dorset social services produced a "horren-dous" report on the school in 1997; recommending a notice of complaint, that he was

forced to resign.
Mr Elvin said: "There is clear and unequivocal evi-dence which does show that Lindsay has engaged in conduct of a serious sexual nature, by definition abusive of children and a gross violation of the principles of promoting

the welfare of children." Judge Wroath, chairing the three strong panel, said he would announce the tribunal's decision on January 25.

Mr Lindsay told The Times after the bearing that he denied all allegations of sexual impropriety and called for the triburial procedures to be reviewed because he had been given no opportunity to challenge evi-dence. "Some of the things I am accused of were completely acceptable in earlier times."

Tony Helliar, a Yeovil solic-tor who had children at the school at the time of the alleged buggery in 1984, said the allegation had no credence. The former pupil's description of Mr Lindsay's study, where the incident was said to have taken place, was completely inaccurate and the supposed train of events implausible.

Police sack cruel dog handlers

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO Essex policemen convicted of cruelty to police dogs at a force training centre were dismissed by their chief constable

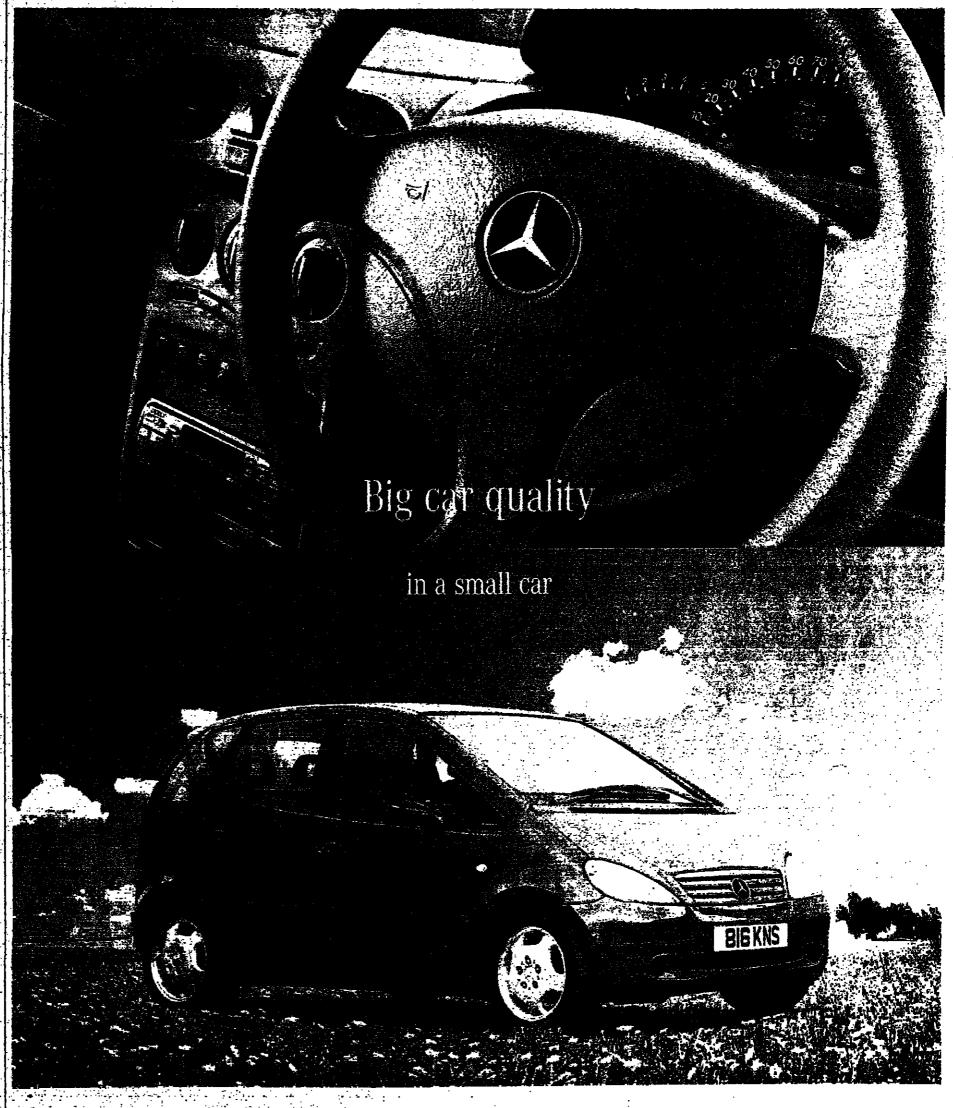
yesterday.
Sgt Andrew White, 38, had been convicted at Chelmsford. Crown Court of seven offences under the Protection of Animals Act 1911 and PC Kenneth Bootman, 45, was found guilty of six charges. Each was sen-Inced to four months in pris-on. They were dismissed after a discipline hearing. At their three-week trial in

November the jury heard details of the way German shep-

herd dogs were regularly strung up by their leads and kicked and punched as part of the training.

At the end of the trial Sergeant Stephen Hopkins, 42, was also convicted of one of-fence and given 200 hours community service. Yesterday, David Stephens, Chief Consta-ble of Essex, ruled that he could keep his job but he will

be reprimanded and banned from working with dogs.
Inspector Graham Curtis, head of the dog section, who was cleared at the trial, will be transferred to other duties.



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nothing wrong. Anyone who throws mud at me will find it will not stick" Peter Mandelson, defending



tell fles?" Mrs Mary Mandelson



Labour Tony Blair in reply to







el hann cut sbort bis Lord Hattersley on Mandelson



good" Robert Hams, author and friend of Mandelson



Brown gave Whelan time to plot exit

BY ROLAND WATSON AND JILL SHERMAN

THE great irony about Charlie Whelan's departure is that it saw him following the advice of his arch-enemy. Peter Mandelson: "My lear is that drift is harming you," wrote the former Trade Secretary. "You need to implement a strategy to exit with enhanced position, strength and re-

The words were not offered to Mr Whelan, but to his boss Gordon Brown nearly five years ago as Westminster waited to see whether he would run to succeed the late John Smith as Labour leader. They form part of the memo that Mr Brown's camp has ever since labelled "the great berray-al", claiming that Mr Mandelson's offer of support was in stark contrast to his campaigning for Tony Blair.

But Mr Mandelson's "strategy to exit" for Mr Brown could just as well apply to Mr Whelan's announcement yesterday that he would be stepping down "at the appropriate time". His resignation followed a fortnight of mounting pressure which has seen the 44-year-old former communist accused of being - and denying that he was - the catalyst for the pre-Christmas resignations of Mr Mandelson and Geoffrey Robinson, the former

Paymaster General He finally made up his mind to quit on Sunday during the train journey south from his holiday hideaway in the Highlands.

Mr Whelan, blamed by his Labour critics for putting his loyalty to Mr Brown above as a whole, realised that he would do his patron more harm than good by staying. He had spoken to the Chancelfor on the Saturday evening to tell him so, and that he had all but resolved to go.

After arriving at King's Cross station on Sunday evening and travelling across the capital to his home in Peckham, southeast London, he Spin doctor was victim of rivalry

between Labour factions that

many believed he instigated

again called the Chancellor and told him that he was reconciled to resigning. He sat down at his kitchen table to draft his resignation statement and arranged to meet Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's spokesman, the next morning to arrange the logistics of the announcement.

The formalities of vesterday. however, had been the result of weeks, if not months, of behind-the-scenes discussions between Mr Whelan and his boss, not to say the subject of speculation among ministers and gossip on the Westminster grapevine. Even before the disclosure of Mr Mandelson's home loan deal with Mr Robinson saw both of them leave their jobs, Mr Whelan and Mr Brown had talked about the possibility of him leaving.

Although his constant companion for the past five years and the man credited with helping to make Mr Brown the most popular post-war Chancellor, Mr Whelan's reputation was in danger of becoming as crumpled as one of his

Those - including Mr Blair, whose attempts to have him sacked after the election failed - who claimed Mr Wheserved to Opposition rather than government were soon claiming evidence.

Since early last year No 10 officials have been trying to tell their neighbour that his Spurs-supporting sidekick whose aggressive manner belied his past as the midfield engine of the First XI at Otter-shaw, a state school in Surrey, if not his role in HMS Pina-

fore and other school produc-tions, was damaging the Chan-

Whether it was disclosing to a TV documentary that he did not always tell the whole truth, or being blamed as a chief source of the Gordon Brown biography that severely damaged relations between Nos 10 and 11, or briefing the press on his mobile phone from outside Whitehall's Red Lion pub about a shift in the Government's policy towards the sin-gle currency. Mr Whelan's often unguarded and always col-ourful manner has attracted critics. Each time his continued position was raised, but Mr Brown refused to fire someone who had become one of his closest friends.

But it was in November, when a newspaper briefing sourced to Mr Whelan threatened to re-open the wounds between Mr Brown and Mr Mandelson with a vengeance, that his future became an active topic of discussion in the Treasury, Whitehall sources sugges

Mr Whelan could have been on his way over the Christmas recess anyway by agreement, but then the Mandelson-Robinson affair surfaced to muddy the waters.

In the immediate aftermath, Mr Brown encouraged his spin-doctor to lie low. According to Whitehall sources, he also indicated to Mr Blair that Mr Whelan, branded "a little oik" by one unnamed Downing Street official, would be gone before the return of the

Commons next week. What remained was for Mr Wheian to be allowed to plot his exit strategy.

As far back as last Tuesday senior ministers were talking up Mr Whelan's qualities. Late that day the Treasury suddenly put out a statement say-ing Mr Brown stood by his

There followed later in the week an explicit message from No 10 that not only was there no evidence against Mr Whelan for the Mandelson leak, but that Downing Street offi-



Charlie Whelan is surrounded by reporters as he arrives at the Treasury yesterday morning before announcing that he was about to quit

cials did not believe he was the source. During weekend interviews Margaret Beckett, the Leader of the House, who has herself been on the wrong end of many a Charlie Whelan-inspired story, was effusive with

Although the signals may have appeared to point in one direction, they combined to allow Mr Whelan to depart with more of an enhanced position, strength and respect than if he had been sacked.

Few doubt that Mr Whelan's departure leaves Wetsminster a greyer place. None of his colleagues match the colour of his language, his stamina at the bar or the savagery of his put-downs.

But that is also why many minsters and MPs were privately welcoming the fact that the man dubbed yesterday by one as "an accident waiting to happen" was on his way.



The young Whelan, left, in a play at Ottershaw School

HOW THEY PLAYED MUSICAL CHAIRS

THE lives of a dozen minis-ters, MPs and advisers have been turned upside down by the events of recent weeks: Peter Mandelson resigned

as Trade and Industry Secretary over his £373,000 home loan from Geoffrey Robinson; Mr Robinson resigned as Paymaster General after the disclosure but was going to quit anyway after attacks on

his past business dealings: Charlie Whelan, Gordon Brown's press secretary, is to

Chief Secretary to the Treasury, became Trade Secretary. Alan Milburn, former Health Minister, joined the Cabinet as Chief Secretary, John Denham, former So-cial Security Minister pro-

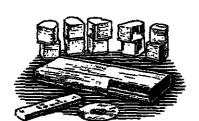
Stephen Timms moved up in Social Security Department Hugh Bayley, former PPS to Health Secretary, became Social Security Minister: Dawn Primarolo, Finan-

cial Secretary to Treasury, becomes Paymaster General: Barbara Rocke, former Trade and Industry Minister, becomes Financial Secretary, Michael Wills, MP for Swindon North, becomes jun-

ior Trade Minister (unpaid) Ben Wegg-Prosser. Mr Mandelson's former special

adviser, is out of a job. Despite a move all but being announced by Downing Street, Geoff Hoon stays put in the Lord Chancellor's Department. Although Mr Hoen was lined up to replace Mr Robinson, Lord Irvine of Lairg objected to losing him

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It's now time for Brown to move on

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

GORDON BROWN no longer needs Charlie Whelan, Like the aiready departed Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Whelan belongs to Mr Brown's Prince Hal days. The roistering band of lads ate pizzas, watched football and plotted a new economic strategy, albeit in the elegance of the Grosvenor House rather than the more lowly Boar's Head Tavern in Eastcheap. That was fine for Opposition, but, in

office, Mr Brown has outgrown this phase. So their resignations are a liberation, a chance for Mr Brown to develop as Chancellor, to demonstrate that he has "turned away my former self" and "those that kept me company".

The danger is that Mr Brown will,

instead, see the departures of Mr Whelan and Mr Robinson as a personal defeat and a victory for his enemies. So he may turn even more upon himself. Mr Brown's main flaw is his factionalism, his preference for working with tight groups of advisers and long-term

and actions of other Labour leaders. That fed the destructive rivalry with Peter Mandelson that has so sapped and divided the Blair Government. As so often, the real damage was often done by acolytes spreading rumours. Mr Whelan was the ultimately loyal

courtier, and, at times, court jester who defended and promoted his master in all the low inns frequented by the press. Often, it was his combative, rumbustious style that stirred conspiracy stories more than any news he leaked; not least because, in contrast with Ed Balls, the Chancellor's economics adviser, he was generally on the outside of policymaking. But as Mr Whelan recognised in his statement yesterday, once he became the story, he lost much of his usefulness to Mr Brown.

The repeated flurry of "Brown verstories have damaged the Chancellor, just as he indirectly suf- der all the time. Unlike most recent

fered from the continuing run of alle gations against, and inquiries about, Mr Robinson. Mr Brown's defensiveness and cliquishness — as so far ex-pressed through people such as Mr Whelan and Brownite MPs - have reduced, rather than enhanced, Mr Brown's standing Other Cabinet min-

isters are wary of him. Mr Brown is a far more considerable figure than all this speculation suggests. Few would guess that he spent much of the second half of last year pushing international financial re-form in private, he is relaxed, with and intellectually wide-ranging, by far one of the most thoughtful members of the Government. He should allow this more open side of his personality a fuller play. He does not need to fear con-spiracies or plots. He needs, above all, to relax, and not to look over his shoul-

Chancellors. Mr Brown has the strong backing of his Prime Minister, even though Tony Blair is at times exasperated by his old friend. Over the past few days. Mr Blair has been insistent that nothing must be said or done to undermine Mr Brown.

One sign of Mr Brown's continuing influence is that one of his close allies. the talented former television producer Michael Wills, has been brought into Government as a junior minis

Mr Whelan's departure offers the chance to clear the air after Peter Man delson's resignation two weeks ago and to find a more low key and conventional personal press officer. Mr Brown should recognise this rather than regard the Whelan/Robinson exits as a cause for further recriminations. Mr Whelan has served him well. at times too well. But it is time to move on from Prince Hal. Mr Brown is now a bigger man and should behave ac-

allies, and his suspicion of the motives Quite a catch' for the private sector

Carol Midgley looks at the career opportunities open

THE resignation of Gordon Brown's rumbustious press secretary sparked a new Whitehall debate yesterday: what will Charlie do next?

Rumours about Mr Whelan's career prospects were rife almost as soon as he announced he was stepping down. Close friends were said to be urging him to cash in by writing a book about his time at the Treasury. The World at One on BBC Radio 4 suggested he was considering a career as a television chat show host

or a political pundit.

Mr Whelan, who studied politics at the City of London Polytechnic, is understood to have ruled out working for any other Whitehall department and intends to try his luck in the private sector. Experts predicted a deluge

of job offers from public rela-

tions, lobbying and City firms

that would more than treble them. I don't know . . . Charlie Whelan may be fantastically brilliant but what the press ofhis £50,000 salary. His knowledge of the Chancellor and the Treasury would make him a ten describes as great spin-docvaluable commodity, particutoring is no more than selling stories which would have sold anyway if they had just ap-peared on a screen."

larly for City consultants.

Lord Bell quashed early rumours that Mr Whelan was being lined up to work for his company, Bell Poninger. "I have never met Charlie Whielan or even spoken to him," he said. "But he will find with real PR you have to work rather harder to get stories in the press than you do hased in Whitehall. In politics, you don't have to sell stories, you have regular lobby briefings.

"It's very difficult to adapt to the private sector. People don't ring you up - you have to ring

One lobbyist, who asked not to be named, said: "Charlie has been very high profile and a lot of chief executives don't like hiring people whose name is more famous than the company's. But he has the gift of the gab and he will be in a top job pretty soon. He does swank a lot but he is incredi-

bly loyal." A financial commentator said Mr Whelan may set up his own consultancy as he

to a man with inside knowledge of the Treasury may be too "larger than life" to fit into a big organisation.

Britain's most famous press manager, Max Clifford, predicted a financially rosy future for Mr Whelan. "Anybody who has been at the centre of government in terms of soli government, in terms of policy, ideas and activities, is hugely attractive, particularly to the City," he said. "By going into the private sector he could attractive, particularly to pick up £500,000 a year easily. You are aware of so much that other people would love to know about. Just think of a multinational company that is desperate to know how Gor-

don Brown is thinking." One political consultant close to Mr Whelan, however, predicted he would follow in

the footsteps of Barones Thatcher's former press secre tary, Sir Bernard Ingham, and become a television pundit g Charlie could well end up being someone like Ingham, giving his opinions on the issues of the day and occasionally doing a bit of consultancy work.

He would be great," he said. "He's a good communicator and knows the Government inside out. If he learns about the commercial world, he could advise companies about their position with the Government and the Treasury. Knowing Charlie, he'll want to remain political If he went into the City working for merchant bankers or financial institutions, with his knowledge of government and the economy he could make a lot more He'd be quite a catch."

. هكذ (من رالإمل

itor-General and then in last

summer's resinufile inherited Mr Mandelson's job as Minis-

ter without Portfolio at the

One official said: "He is a lovely man to work for. He works hard but it is great fun.

There is no side to the man.

His shirt is often hanging out

Cabinet Office.

of his trousers."

... that is a recipe for disaster" Lord Shore, Cabinet minister in the Wilson Government, on rivelry in Stalr's team



Leader of the House, on Charlie



Crony claim as Blair's friend takes on Dome

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR faced fresh charges of cronyism from the Conservatives last night after handing one his oldest friends the responsibility for the Millennium Dome.

Lord Falconer of Thoroton, who shared a house with the Prime Minister in their days as young barristers, is taking over as government shareholder in the Dome, overseeing the £758 million Greeenwich exhibition following the resignation of Peter Mandelson.

Lord Falconer was enno-bled after the 1997 election, became Solicitor-General, then moved to be Minister of State at the Cabinet Office, which gives him a seat on 14 cabinet committees. Last night he said: The Dome at Greenwich will be the centrepiece of

the UK's hugely diverse celebrations in the year 2000.

Much has been achieved so far to deliver it on time and on budget. The year ahead holds further challenges to which I am sure the New Millennium Experience Company is more than equal."

Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, will answer ques-tions on the Dome in the Commons, but Lord Falconer will have ultimate responsibility. Peter Ainsworth, the Shadow Culture Secretary, criticised the appointment as "yet another example of the cronyism that pervades this govern-

ment".

Mr Ainsworth, who had called for a non-political figure with business experience to take over from Mr Mandelson, asked: 'In what way is Lord Falconer qualified to take on the task, other than the fact that he is a close friend

of Tony Blair?
The announcement will no nothing to dispel public scepticism whilst risking the success of the project."

Lord Falconer, 48, is mar-

Lord Falconer, 48, is mar-ried with four children and a much lower govern-lives in Islington, North Lon-ment salary after the 1997 genlives in Islington, North Lon-

neighbour is Gary Hart, special adviser to Lord Irvine of Lairy, the Lord Chancellor.

He is a pop music fan and, like many in their forties, his first love remains the hits of the 1960s and 1970s with narticular favourites being the Rolling Stones and the Beatles. His party trick is to name the B-sides of almost

any hit in the early 1960s. His wife Marianna, a fami ly law barrister, said last night: "His great love, undoubtedly, is pop music. He is stuck on the old hits like so many who grew up in the 60s and 70s.

"But we have young children and there is nothing he cannot tell people about the Spice Girls and other new

She said that her husband liked music by groups such as the Rolling Stones, Bearles and Beach Boys. Lord Falconer is also a regular theatre goer and visits the opera "regniarly but infrequently", according to his wife.

His last two visits to the theatre were over Christmas to see Peter Pan at the Eden Court theatre in Inverness and Dick Whittington at the Theatre Royal in Nottingham. Lord Falconer, Charlie to

his friends, is one of the Prime Minister's closest confidents having first met Mr Blair when they were schoolboys in Edinburgh more than 30

years ago.

They have remained the closest of friends, working as barristers in different chambers in the same building in London and sharing a house in Wandsworth, southwest London, Lord Falconer and his wife dine regularly with

He was earning a reported £500,000 a year as a barrister but gave up his lucrative comdon, where his next-door eral election. He became Solic-



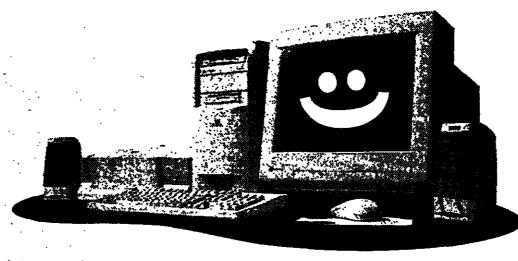
Family man: Lord Falconer with his wife, children, father and stepmother on the day he was sworn in as Solicitor-General

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'Red Dawn' rewarded for her loyalty

Roland Watson on a radical's rise to the post of Paymaster General

FEW have made the transition from left-wing rebel to loyal Minister of the Crown as smoothly as Dawn Primarolo, the new Paymaster General: Less than eight years ago the Bennite "Red Dawn" was standing in Bristol Magistrates' Court defending her right not to pay the poll tax.

and receiving a liability order for her trouble. first full day as the most important Treasury minister outside the Cabinet, repetition of the story still irks her but has done nothing to halt her steady rise through the ranks. Few were tipping her to fill the post made vacant by the resig-

nation of Geoffrey Robinson before Christmas, but Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, values her first husband and their loyalty above all other political attributes and Ms Primarolo has been loyal to a fault. She may have betrayed her

frustrations in private, and when her parliamentary private secratary. Mick Clapham, resigned as part of the re-volt against cuts to single mothers' benefits, many saw her own unease in his action. But the woman who built part of her early reputation for outspokenness around her sup-

port of single mothers' rights went out in public to defend Ms Primarolo is only the third woman to hold the post of Paymaster General. She follows in the footsteps of Judith Hart, later Baroness Hart of

ess Williams of Crosby, who held it from 1976 to 1979.

Those who knew Ms Primarolo in Bristol in the mid 1980s-say that her transformation has been remarkable. She served as Tony Benn's constituency secretary while also a member of the now-de-

funct Avon County Council. After Mr Benn was shunted out of a parliamentary seat by his Today, as she spends her fellow Labour MP, Michael Cocks, later Baron Cocks of Hartcliffe, through a boundary reorganisation, Ms Prima-rolo exacted the Left's revenge-five years later, although it took hier four ballots to oust Mr Cocks and become the MP for Bristol South

Born in Bow, East London, she had moved to Bristol with son. She initially turned her back on higher education, preferring to take a secretarial course and start work, but later took a degree in politics and economics at Bristol University. She separated from Michael Primarolo, a teacher. in 1983, and has since married Ian Ducat; a Bristol-based un-

ion official. Chirpy and engaging in pri-vate, she has learnt the value of relative silence in public and chooses her words carefully in the few media interviews

she gives.
And since joining the Labour front beach as a bealth spokeswoman in 1992, later to be transferred into Mr Brown's shadow Treasury team in 1994, there have been precious few signs of her rebel-

South Lannock, who held the job from 1968 to 1969, and of Shirley Williams, later Baron-

2. 10

Butlin's awaite

Wards are short of beds and staff, reports Elizabeth Judge

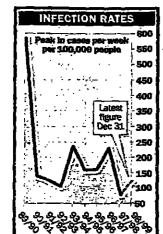
HOSPITALS are struggling to cope with sufferers of the two strains of flu moving south through the country. All but emergency admissions have been banned at some because beds have been filled by flu victims, or because of staff shortages caused by the illness. Ambulance services are also lighting to keep up with the surge

An appeal for help from student nurses was made by Roy-al Liverpool Hospital, where one elderly woman with flu fell from a trolley after waiting four hours to be seen. The pensioner had 30 stitches to her head and was put back on the trolley, where she waited another ten hours to be seen.

Steve Flanagan, a regional officer in Liverpool with the Royal College of Nursing, said: 'There has been a 22 per cent increase in emergency ad-missions over the Christmas period because of the flu bug. To cope with this the hospital has opened additional wards." The hospital will be on red alert until Thursday.

Merseyside Regional Ambulance Service received 300 calls a day more than usual in the post-Christmas period, for flu. A spokesman said: "We are sitting in corridors with the patients on our

trolleys for up to three hours." Flu was also causing severe problems in the West Midlands. A spokesman from Royal Wolverhampton Hospital said that ambulances were having to park and wait 15 minutes to drop off patients. "We normally have about 260 people in beds. That number



has risen to 400 because of the

"Hospital staff are getting to the end of their tether. They are more than fully stretched and using every last ounce of their natural resources," the spokesman said

The hospital has shut four operating theatres and transferred theatre nurses to other wards. One hundred nurses are having to work back-toback shifts because of the large number of patients and because staff are ill with the

In Leeds, three times the normal number of patients have been admitted to casualty since Christmas Eve. A spokes-man for United Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust said: The number of patients is worse than it ever has been, in a large measure as a result of the flu virus. The main problem is not a lack of beds but a

lack of staff because they are also falling ill with flu."

The hospital is postponing non-urgent surgery to make as many beds available as possi-

ble and does not expect to return to normal before the end of the month.

Bedford Hospital has been put on red alert after admitting 450 patients with flu and other illnesses in nine days. Two patients were cared for in operating theatres until beds in intensive care could be found. Red alert means that all scheduled admissions are cancelled and only emergencies are admitted

Staff at York District Hospital dealt with more than 200 flu patients at the weekend. Colin Watts, general manager, said that 32 operations were cancelled yesterday because 75 flu patients were taking up beds on surgery wards.

A spokesman for the Lon-don Ambulance Service said that compared with last year it had received double the number of call-outs on New Year's Eve and New Year's

At Kingston Hospital, southwest London, three people had to be assessed by nurses in ambulances parked outside because the accident unit was so

busy on Saturday. John MacDonald, chief exec-utive of the John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford, said: "We have been very busy since Boxing Day. People have been waiting in accident and emergency for assessment and admission

Leading article, page 17

LONDON & SOUTH EAST

The south coast has not vet been badly

affected but the flu is expected soon to put pressure on London hospitals.

There is an increase in elderly patients

being admitted with respiratory prob-lems, many thought to be flu related.

The biggest fear is the increasing

number of staff falling ill, often the first

to be affected and difficult to replace at

this time of year. Health officials are

monitoring the situation in the Mid-

lands as it seems to be moving south.



Devious little bug is hard to pin down

By Ian Murray

ONLY an expert with a microscope can tell the difference between a cold and a flu, so a patient struck down by flulike symptoms cannot know whether to expect a few days of sniffles or a few weeks in

bed with pneumonia. The flu virus is very infectious and easily transmitted by a sneeze or cough. It is especially prevalent over the holiday period because peo-



ple mix more at seasonal parties, spreading the germs. Many people, however, are not even aware that they have been infected because they quickly develop an immunity to the virus.

The two flu strains behind this year's seasonal outbreak are the more dangerous Astrain or "Sydney flu", and the less severe B-strain or "-Beijing flu". At present there are five cases of the Sydney flu for every three cases of the Beijing strain.

NORTH WEST

Unprecedented demand last week on

In some hospitals, admissions were 25

bulance manager said it was the busi-

If you succumb, go to bed and keep warm

A TROUBLESOME flu epidemic was expected this season, partly because flu is cyclical but also because there had been a disappointing take up of the injections available for those at most risk of complications. Patients should take to their beds: remaining in an even,

warm temperature is most important. Keeping away from others is also useful - colds and flu are most infectious in

their early stages. Unless, of course, they have been sent to hospital by a doc-tor, patients should not seek treatment there: they can catch other infections that make the illness more dangerous. Sufferers should drink plen-

take aspirin to reduce their temperature and an over-thecounter cough remedy so that they can get some sleep. Those under 16 should not take aspirin but should use a paracetamol preparation. Sweet, syr-upy drinks will help to counter

dehydration. Antibiotics will not alleviate the initial viral symptoms, but they can be life-saving if sec-

ondary infection occurs, There is a case for giving immediate antibiotics to those who are particularly vulnerable - people with pre-existing heart, kidney or lung disease, those suffering from any im-mune disorder or taking ster-

NORTHERN & YORKSHIRE

Hospitals and ambulances are still

very busy and the situation is not eas-

ing. Because GPs are stretched to the

limit and quoting six-hour waits, wor-

ried patients are calling ambulances

instead. West Yorkshire ambulance

service is dealing with 1,000 calls a

Patients need to see a dector urgently if the phlegar turns green or yellow, if they state breathlessness, and particular ly if they develop a blueish complexion or become confused. Doctors never mind being called out to see the two most fragile groups, the very old and babies - or, of course. anyone else in whom flu seems

to have become complicated. Symptoms usually clear up within ten days although the year the effects have been tasher more prolonged.

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

> > Monial attack

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Hospita

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EASTERN

Influenza and related illnesses are putting great pressure on services. Demand on hospitals and ambulance services is rising and demands on staff are greater than last year. Ambulance services were under extreme pressure over Christmas. East Anglia ambulance service had 360 emergency calls on some days compared with an average of 250. Ambulance demand is, however, decreasing and health officials hope the situation has peaked.

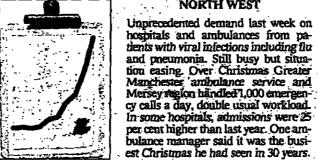


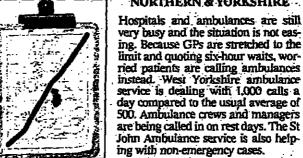
TRENT

A steep rise in demand for hospital services. GP consultations for flu and flulike symptoms are 140 per 100,000 which is high but not yet an epidemic and similar to last year. A new emergency local action plan has been activated letting health services cope by opening emergency wards. Rotherham hospital yesterday opened a wing with 28 beds and extra staff have been recruited to run it. Doncaster hospital had opened an extra ward with 80 beds.

SOUTH & WEST

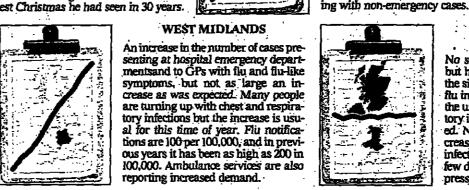
There has not yet been a significant increase in demand on services because of influenza. The south and west regions are still reporting only 41 cases per 100,000 of the population per week, which is normal for this time of year. Hospitals are busy but coping. There is an increase in admissions for respiratory infections - especially among the elderly - in southwest Devon and in Dorset, where there is extra pressure





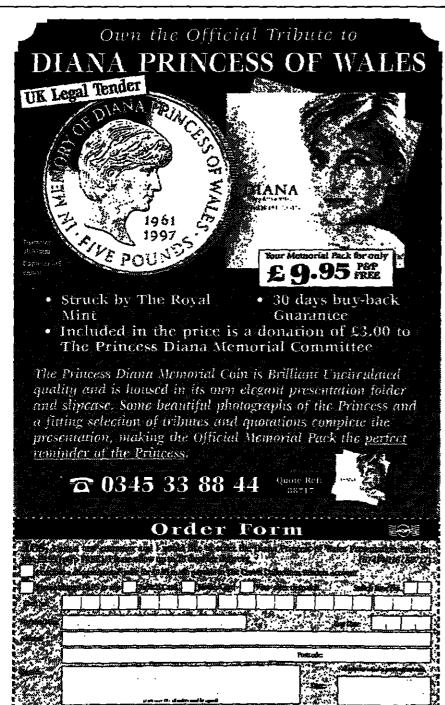
SCOTLAND, WALES &

No serious problems at the moment but health authorities are monitoring the situation. No significant reports of flu in any of these regions but there is the usual seasonal increase in respiratory illnesses which are often flu related. Northern Ireland has seen an increase in admissions with respiratory infections to acute hospitals over past few days, which is putting some extra pressure on hospitals.





The widest Choice of



Third friend falls ill with meningitis

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A TEENAGER who lost two treated in hospital for the same disease. The news came as research was launched to discover why cases of menin-goccal disease have more than doubled among teenagers in the past five years.

The latest patient, Louise Salmons, 16, was in a stable condition at Barnsley District General Hospital, South Yorkshire. Her friends Claire Wilkinson, 14, and Adam Rawson, 15, died on New Year's Eve. She is a former pupil at

Wath Comprehensive School, near Rotherham, where all 1.750 pupils are being given antibiotics as a precautionary measure.

The stepfather of Miss Wilkinson is to write to the Prime Minister to complain that her treatment was delayed when she was transferred 40 miles to Nottingham because there was no room in the local intensive

Malcolm Bates, of Swinton, near Rotherham, said: "I do not want other parents to go through what Claire's mother and I have suffered. I am doing my grieving in pri-vate but I am making my an-

ger public."

A 38-year-old woman with meningitis had to be flown by RAF helicopter from Birkenhead to North Tees General Hospital in Middlesbrough because there were no intensive care beds available in

Cairns was in a critical condition last night. In Poynton, Cheshire, friends of two teen age patients who are thought to have contracted meningitis at a Christmas party are being vaccinated against the disease. In Gateshead, 2,500 pupils at two schools are being immunised after six pupils went down with the disease and a 12-year-old boy died.

The Meningitis Research Foundation is funding a twoyear research programme, which begins this week, to try to find out why teenagers are at increased risk. The foundation said last night that cases of meningoccal disease - meningitis and septicaemia - had more than doubled among teenagers in five years. Researchers will compare blood samples taken from infected teenagers with those from

healthy volunteers. They want to know whether social factors such as smoking, kissing or drinking alcohol increase the risk. The re-search is being led by Robert Booy, lecturer in paediatrics at St Mary's Hospital in Paddington, North London.

Ja Tully, the project co-ordinator, said: "The results will inform decisions about public health strategies and new vac-

The National Meningitis Trust has given warning that the disease is more prevalent. at this time of year because it can be spread by coughs and sneezes. About 3,000 people contract meningitis each year.

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ه کذار من رالإمل

Butlin's welcome awaited Cold War evacuees

A SECRET plan to send thousands of Americans to Butlin's holiday camps before evacuating them from Europe in the event of war with the Soviet Union has been revealed in documents released under the 50-year rule.

More than 30,000 American citizens were to be shipped to the US under Operation Whizzbang, an evacuation blueprint drawn up by British and American officials as tension with the USSR grew before the Berlin airlift in 1948.

About 10,000 Americans liv-

ing in Britain were to leave on merchant ships and US Navy vessels within days of a conflict breaking out. A further 23,000 from continental Europe, though not occupied Germany, were planned to follow. Holding camps for the European evacuees were to be set up in holiday resorts around Britain, with Butlin's camps at Pwllheli in North Wales and Ayr in Scotland earmarked to

house 9,000 people.

Operation Whizzbang was first conceived by naval attachés at the US embassy in London to evacuate only those Americans living in Britain. It was later extended to cover northwest Europe after investigations found that a direct evacuation from France or the Netherlands would be imprac-

The proposal to use Butlin's camps came from R. K. Jago. a civil servant at the Ministry of Works, who suggested the idea to the top-secret Anglo-American group that developed the plans. Camps, he argued, would be more practical than hotels, which would prove hard to staff.

"If the emergency arose during the summer months when Mark Henderson

not told about Whizzbang un-til almost everything was in place, and FO officials com-

plained to the Cabinet Office

and the US Embassy about be-

ing kept in the dark. Britain also warned Commo-

dore Shelley, the US naval at-

taché, that any leak "could

hardly fail to have a bad effect

here and on Anglo-American

of the Americans in Britain,

was to be the "nerve centre" of

the operation. Non-American

dependents would have been

eligible for evacuation, but

able-bodied men would only

have been allowed to leave

once there was no more they

could do to help to move out

women, children and invalids.

Britain to agree to include

31.000 citizens from occupied

Germany, but Britain felt this

was impractical and asked for

a French port to be considered.

America later tried to get

London, home to 40 per cent

relations".

on the holiday camp send-off

arranged for 33,000 departing

Americans

would be no difficulty in arranging to earmark two of them, complete with staff," a minute of the second group

"If the emergency arose during the winter when the camps were closed, it could either be arranged with Mr Butlin or the camps requisitioned and arrangements made for the National Service Hostels Association to do the running of the

"[Mr Jago] felt the holiday camps would be ideal in that they were already equipped and arranged for catering for large numbers of people at one time, and would have the advantage that whole trainloads could be made up from one centre to go to any port."
The Ayr and Pwilheli sites

were chosen for their proximity to the ports of Greenock and Liverpool. To cater for evacuation via Southampton and Plymouth, a list of smaller camps along the south coast that would hold another 13,000 was drawn up.

The plan was approved in the autumn, and the Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, was informed in December 1948. Details were kept "top secret", and British officials even vetoed the idea of involving the Republic of Ireland for fear of a leak. The Foreign Office was



Riverside romance: Abigail Wilkinson and David Wielders on their wedding day

Tourist marries her 'Crocodile Dundee' rescuer

BY A CORRESPONDENT

A BACKPACKER from Birmingham has married her own "Crocodile Dundee" after he rescued her from a crocodile infested river in the Australian outback.

Abigail Wilkinson's dramatic meeting with her hus-band-to-be, David Wielders, happened while she was on a canoeing trip at Fitzroy ia. The 24-year-old lawyer cansized and Mr Wielders, a cattle station worker from Femantle, saw her struggling towards the shore and pulled her to safety.

They were married four months later in the village of Humpty Doo before heading for Darwin, capital of the Northern Territory. They are now continuing their travels and hope to visit the Solo-mon Islands in the next couple of months.

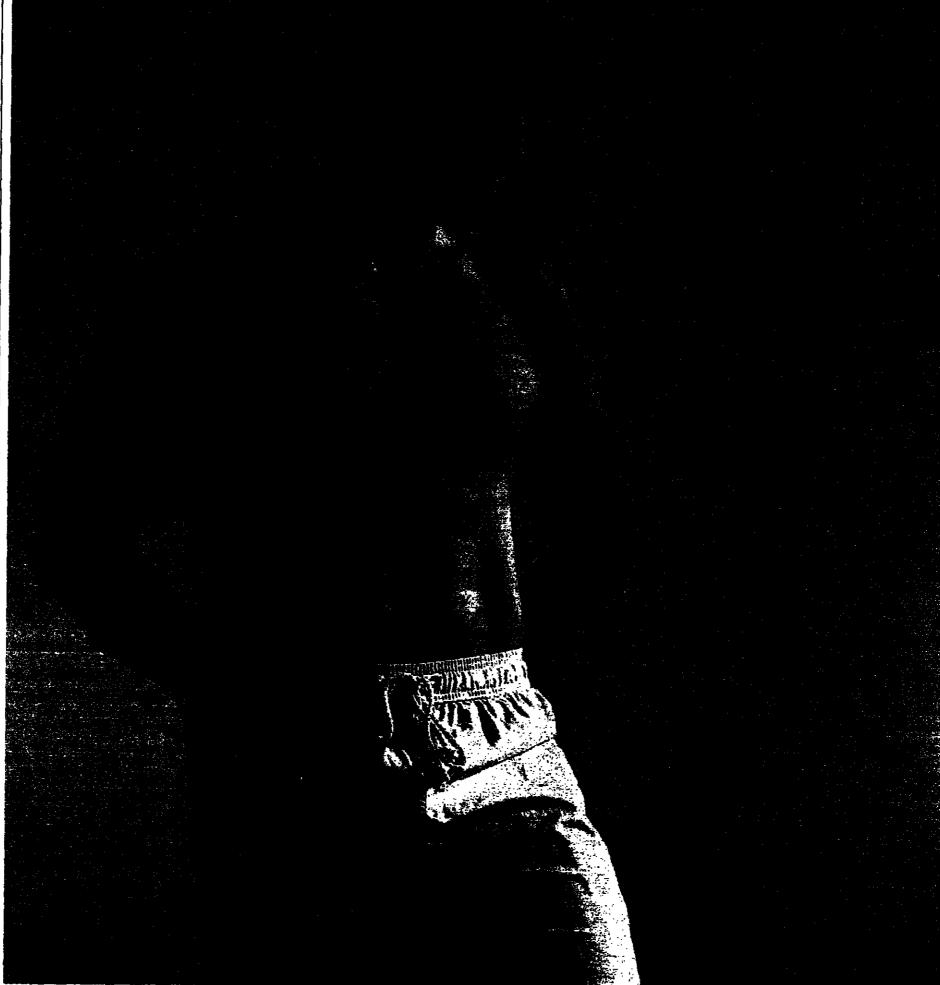
Speaking yesterday from the family home in Solihull, West Midlands, Ms Wilkinson's father. Peter, said that his daughter had telephoned him an hour before the wed-

ding to get his blessing.
"I admit that it came as a bit of a shock," he said. "But she is a very sensible girl who has her head screwed on. She became disenchanted with her life in Birmingham and decided to do some travelling, though she had no intention of getting

married. "She met David after tumbling into the water while she was canoeing. The last thing she saw before going under was a sign saying 'Be-

ware of the Crocodiles'.
"Luckily her 'knight in shining armour, who was with a separate group, had seen what had happened and rescued her. It was love

at first sight."
He added that his daughter had also fallen in love with Australia and he did not believe that she and her new husband would live in



GET THE FIGURE YOU'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF

Colonial attack on 'lazy' Jamaicans

THE colonial governor of and hates success whether in Jamaica during the Second his fellows or imported offic-World War condemned the Caribbean island's inhabitants as lazy, intolerable and unreasonable, according to a newly released document

from 1940. The scathing attack by Sir Arthur Richards, who singled out local politicians for particular abuse, was made in a letter to Lord Lloyd, the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The island was "a headache", Sir Arthur wrote, because "the Jamaican is so intractable and intolerable, with very few exceptions white or black. The Jamaican envies

ers whom he hates anyway".

Proposals for democratic reform put forward by the nationalist leader Norman Manly were a non-starter, he said, because of "the lack of any decent material other than Manly himself".

Jamaican politicians fell into three categories: "disgruntled failures whose laziness or incompetence have denied the position they have come to occupy": "rabid communists, largely inspired by the hatred of the white man"; or "pure theorists with no practical

Teeth alert for cancer children

By Our Medical Correspondent

MANY children with cancer run an extra, life-threatening risk by not having regular dental checks, researchers say. Chemotherapy causes a

range of mouth problems and cancer makes children more prone to dangerous infections. Research was carried out on 60 children with cancer aged hetween one and 14 being treated at the Royal Manchester

Children's Hospital.
The survey, published in Archives of Disease in Childhood, found abnormally high levels of tooth decay, with 21 needing urgent treatment and five others with some prob-lems. All the children were reviewed and their teeth inspect-

ed at outpatient clinics. The families and medical teams were reluctant to go out-side the hospital service on which they had become reliant. Hospital dental services are largely limited to emergenies and extractions.

☐ Dentists who treat at least three quarters of their patients on the NHS say they have greater job insecurity and less job satisfaction than colleagues who take on more priish Dental Association poll.



Hospital shops pose drug risk

By IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

HOSPITAL shops are failing to restrict sales of over-the counter medicines despite the threat of overdose by patients.

A survey in the Psychiatric Bulletin, published today, found that an emphasis on commercial rather than clinical considerations was behind the lack of adequate sales restrictions.

The survey of 73 hospitals found that 20 had shops that stocked over-the-counter medicines that would be dangerous in overdose or could interfere with existing treatments. The drugs contained in the remedies included paracetamol, aspirin and ibuprofen.

Fifteen of the 20 hospitals had psychiatric wards. At three of these, patients had taken overdoses of medicines bought from the shops but the hospitals went on selling the drugs afterwards, although with restrictions.

The report, by David Somer-field of Cossham Hospital, Bristol said that shop managers were more used to commercial considerations, so it was not surprising that the dangers of selling medicines to inpatients were not always iden-

Fourteen of the 20 shops had sales policies in place, but only one shop had devised a robust system to restrict sales, Dr Somerfield said Most of the policies could be overcome by he determined patient.

Dr Somerfield said the best policy would be to restrict all sales to staff carrying identification or, more simply, to prohibit medication sales entirely.

US hides fear at threat to strong dollar

THE Clinton Administration has greeted the launch of the euro with a cautious entitusiasm that belies the problems the project may present for the United States and for its relations with Europe.

"If it works, then it will be a good thing" has been the official line — a scrupulous agnosticism with a warm gloss, repeated this week as the euro started trading. "If it works in part or in whole. Europe will be stronger economically, and a stronger Europe is fundamentally good for the US." said Robert Shapiro. Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs.

American support has been fuelled by a desire for European countries to manage the region's politics more harmoniously, and by a widespread perception that European leaders run to the United States for military help when trouble breaks out. We've sorted out four wars for them - World War I, World War II, the Cold War and Bosnia." one Admin-

istration official has said. American businesses have also been boisterous cheerleaders for monerary union. They expect that it will make it easier for them to market their products across borders. They are concerned that, if the euro

Europe's world role in balance, writes Bronwen

Maddox in Washington

risk of currency movements in one currency, not eleven. America's manufacturers also see Europe as a fortress of companies that may be dominant in their well-protected local markets, but are less competitive than their US rivals. The end of currency fluctua-

tions will expose companies

trying to sell at high prices.

and favour those whose prod-

ucts are cheaper. US companies argue. They have the advantage of honing competitive skills and efficiency across 50 states, in a market of more than 250 million people. But, as dozens of US banks and retailers will testify, they have repeatedly misjudged how to break into

the European market. But behind the optimism, benevolence and goodwill, is a wide vein of unease. Officials

world's dominant currency for half a century — which now accounts for nearly 60 per cent of global capital reserves.

That is about four times as

If the euro began to change that balance, the shift could push up the cost of borrowing

launch, "Europe has thrown lenge to the US dollar's dominance of international trade and finace. The advent ... of EMU doesn't just change the world's financial landscape."

troverted and even less cohesive as a political bloc, officials fear. America could then be left alone to fight the new "financial war" of the Asian

much as the European currencies together, even though the economic output of euroland is close to that of the US.

dollars for the US Government and companies. The Wall Street Journal declared that, with the euro's down the first postwar chal-

it argued. "it also could after the global balance of power". If the project begins to unravel, it could distract Europe's attention from world problems, making it more in-

LIVING WITH THE EURO





Gerrit Zalm gets a sticky greeting as he enters the Amsterdam stock exchange to watch the start of euro trading yesterday. He was not amused

Custard pie start on trading floor

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

WHILE traders began working with the European Union's new world currency yesterday, a band of Dutch pranksters won global coverage for themselves by shoving cream tarts in the face of their Finance Minister.

Gerrit Zalm, a leading figure in the EU finance council, lost his usual sense of humour when he was attacked as he walked into the Amstereuro's first business day. "This is incomprehensible...an anti-democratic action." said Mr Zalm as he wiped whipped cream off his face.

The attack was claimed by a local group calling itself TAART (a Dutch acronym for Against Authoritarian Anti-Revolutionary Characters). Its leaf-let said that the "festive action" was intended to underline the "megalomaniac and anti-democratic" nature of the single currency. TAART attacks on celebrities are a staple practice of anarNetherlands. The last prominent victim was Bill Gates, the Microsoft chairman hit by a pie in Brussels last year. The only other hiccup to the smooth launch of the euro yesterday came

when the European Commission yielded to the Bank of England and decreed that the plural form of the euro in English would end with an "s". The Commission had ruled that, for simplicity's sake, the euro would have no plural form in the EU's 11 official languages. However, the Bank of England, the City and the Irish Republic

have all been writing "euros". Commis sion officials were musing on the irony of being forced to change by the one big country outside monetary union.

Cl Official suspended: Relations between the Commission and the European Parliament were soured further yesterday after the Brussels execu-tive confirmed that it had suspended Paul van Buiten, a Durch finance si-spector in the Commission's financial control unit, who reported to the Parliament about alleged fraud and cover-ups by Commission officials.

done on the quiet and in de-

fiance of what the people

Money that is easier to receive than to give

By Alan Hamilton

TO HARRODS for half a Vieux Boulogne cheese, armed with \$100 in travellers' cheques. They get offered every currency under the sun in Knightsbridge; surely they would not turn a hair at dealing with this latest arrival.

Euros were easier to acquire than to dispose of in London yesterday. An American Express bureau de change in the

including commission, and a free warning that they might be tricky to get rid of.

Not much good for cheese, certainly. Harrods' cheese lady took it remarkably well when offered a 650 travellers' cheque (£36) in payment for the £4.50 cheese. "We can do it, sir, but it's a bit complicated. You'll have to go to the accounts office on the fifth floor, and it will take you the best part of half an hour." City offered them at £73.38 Vieux Boulogne is best not

easy@demon[no.3]

over-matured, so we bottled out with cash. Across the street to the Hyde Park Hotel, bedecked with French and German flags, to test the euro as payment for a £360-a-night double room. They had not seen one before, but were the soul of smooth. "Of course we would accept it, sir, but we would have to have it converted into sterling first; we could,

of course, do that for you." An £8 taxi fare across town was bound to be trouble. Try

offering a genuine Bank of England £50 note to a cabbie, and he will doubt your sanity and parentage. "Wouldn't touch it mate: wouldn't know what to do with it. Ain't ya got

At last Marks & Spencer, Eurostore par excellence, at Finsbury Pavement in the City in the middle of their January sale. A £20 cotton shirt beckoned. The manageress consulted a volume of paper, it being the first example of the beast she had seen. "No problem sir; that will be 628. Yes, of course we accept euro travellers' cheques; our tills are all geared up for them, and you shall have your £30 change in

The sales assistant, Molly Ferguson, smiled charmingly. That's fine, sir, no problem at all. Now, as it's a travellers' cheque, may I just see your

Ah. Um. Do you take



Alan Hamilton buys a

Gaullist rebel defies federal steamroller

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

CHARLES PASQUA, 71, the former French Interior Minister, will lead his own Eurosceptic list in the forthcoming European elections to campaign against the develop-ment of a federal Europe. M Pasqua's decision to try

to defend French sovereignty was a major act of rebellion by

mel deports cultis the veteran Gaullist, a central RPR figure for more than 20 years. He quit his place within the party leadership on the euro's launch. "We are abandoning both the franc and another slice of our national sovereignty." he said. "This new step towards a federal Europe, which I oppose, must not be

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Punjab hail of bullets kills 16 in mosque

FROM KATHY GANNON IN ISLAMABAD AND KHALID TANVIR IN MULTAN

GUNMEN opened fige on Shia Muslims as they knelt in prayer at a mosque in eastern Punjao province yesterday, killing 16 people and wounding at least 25 others. Injured worshippers crawled to loudspeakers to plead for help. As many as 13 victims are believed to be critically hurt.

People struggled to find

transport to get the wounded to the nearest hospital, about 12 miles away. Motorised rickshaws, horse-drawn carts and cars and buses were all commandered.

Many of the seriously hurt were taken to Nishter hospital in Multan, about 24 miles away. There a state of emergency had been declared and hundreds of Shia and Sunni Muslims gathered to give blood to help the victims.

Witnesses told of neigh- I heard people on the loudbours rushing to the mosque, grabbing small children and elderly men, cradling the dead and comforting the wounded.

"Blood was splattered all over the floor of the mosque" said a shaken Ebsan Karim, who runs a small roadside restaurant near by. "The wounded and the dead — all seemed to be piled on each other."

No one has taken responsi-

hospital. "I was hit by bullets

and then fell unconscious . . . I

don't know what happened afterwards." Some witnesses

said the attackers fired as they

sped past on motorcycles. Oth-

ers described seeing three

masked men speed away from

the scene after the shooting. In the federal capital, Islamabad,

Government and Opposition

Leading article, page 17

condemned the attack. (AP)

bility for the killing, but police suspect rival Muslim militants. Witnesses said that the attack in Shah Jamal, about 180 miles south of the eastern Punjab provincial capital of Lahore, happened as worshippers were finishing morning prayers that marked the beginning of their day-long Ramadan fast

"I heard the firing and then

speaker saying 'help me'. They were the wounded," said Ahsan Karim Shah, owner of a nearby hotel.

Tareen Bux, among those injured, described how the attackers came from behind. "We all were praying when bullets started hitting us from the back," he said at Nishter

An Israeli security officer questions a Palestinian boy in Hebron yesterday

Hebron sealed off as gunmen wound settlers From Ross Dunn in Jerusalem

CLASHES erupted in the from the adjacent Jewish settle-divided West Bank town of ment of Krtyat Arba, were on Hebron yesterday after suspected Palestinian gunmen opened fire, wounding two Jewish women, one seriously.

Israeli troops sealed off the town after the attack and imposed a curfew on the 20 per cent of Palestinian residents in its centre. After the closure, fighting broke out and Israeli soldiers fired rubbercoated metal bullets at stonethrowing Palestinians youths. hitting one boy aged 13 in the head and another in the hand.

The two Israeli women were shot in their car as they drove near the Tomb of the Patriarchs - the traditional resting place of Abraham and Sarah and a shrine that is holy to both Muslims and Jews.

David Bar-Illan, the senior adviser to Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister. condemned the shootings, saying that they made a mockery of the peace accords under which Palestinians and Jews were to refrain from violence.

their way to work in Hebron when gunmen opened fire on the vehicle. "I came here and I saw the car riddled with bullets," said Mrs Orit Struk. one of about 400 Jewish residents who live and study in Hebron. surrounded by more than

100,000 Palestinians. Although Hebron is now under Palestinian self-rule, Jewish residents are protected by Israeli soldiers under an 1997 agreement that, in effect,

divided the town. Noam Arnon, a Hebron Jewish settler leader, said the latest attack was more evidence that the Israeli Government should never have given security control over most of the city to the Palestinians.

The latest violence comes as negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians are frozen. Mr Netanyahu refuses to hand over more West Bank land until the Palestinians meet five conditions, including ending threats to declare an independent state in May.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Serb party expels chosen leader

Banja Luka: Brano Miljus, the Bosnian Serb Prime Ministerdesignate, has been expelled from his party three days after he was nominated by hardline President Poplasen of the country's Serb entity. But Mr Miljus dismissed the decision. The Independent Social Democrats are led by the incumbent Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, backed by the West. The West claims that the plan to nominate Mr Miljus came from President Milosevic of Yugoslavia. The opposing hardline and moderate Bosnian Serb blocs each control about 30 seats in parliament and Mr. Dedik has ruled with the support of Muslim and Croat MPs. (Reuters)

Israel deports cultists

Petah Tikva, Israel: Israel ordered the deportation of Il Americans suspected of being members of a cult plotting violence to mark the millennium and hasten the Second Coming of Jesus. The leader of the Denver-based Concerned Christians, Monte Kim Miller, who has prophesied that he will die on the streets of Jerusalem this year, was not in Israel, police said. (Reuters)

Sihanouk trial pledge

Parlin, Cambodia: King Sihanouk said he would give up his ranni, Camandia: King Shiantota, Sain he would give up his royal immunity to appear before any tribunal to judge the Khmer Rouge. But prospects for a tribunal to try Khmer Rouge leaders for genocide looked dies with the comrades of Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea, who defected late last month, indicating they would resist any attempts to take them for trial (Reuters)

DiCaprio film threat



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Bunghole: People drying in Phi Phi Island National Park threshered to sue Twentieth Century fox and That officials for "destroy-ing a tragile eco system" to make a film star-ring Lemardo DiCaprio, left. Coconut trees have been planted and dunes shaped to make the film — an adaptation of Alec Gar-land's cult novel, The Beach. (AFP)

Bus hit by rocket

when an anti-tank rocket hit a bus near the southern Somali town of Baidoa. The attack was by the Rahanwein Resistance Army, which desied only civilians were on board and accused gunmen of firmg on a checkpoint manned by the RRA, in conflict with the warlord Hussein Mohamed Aidid since 1995. (AFP)

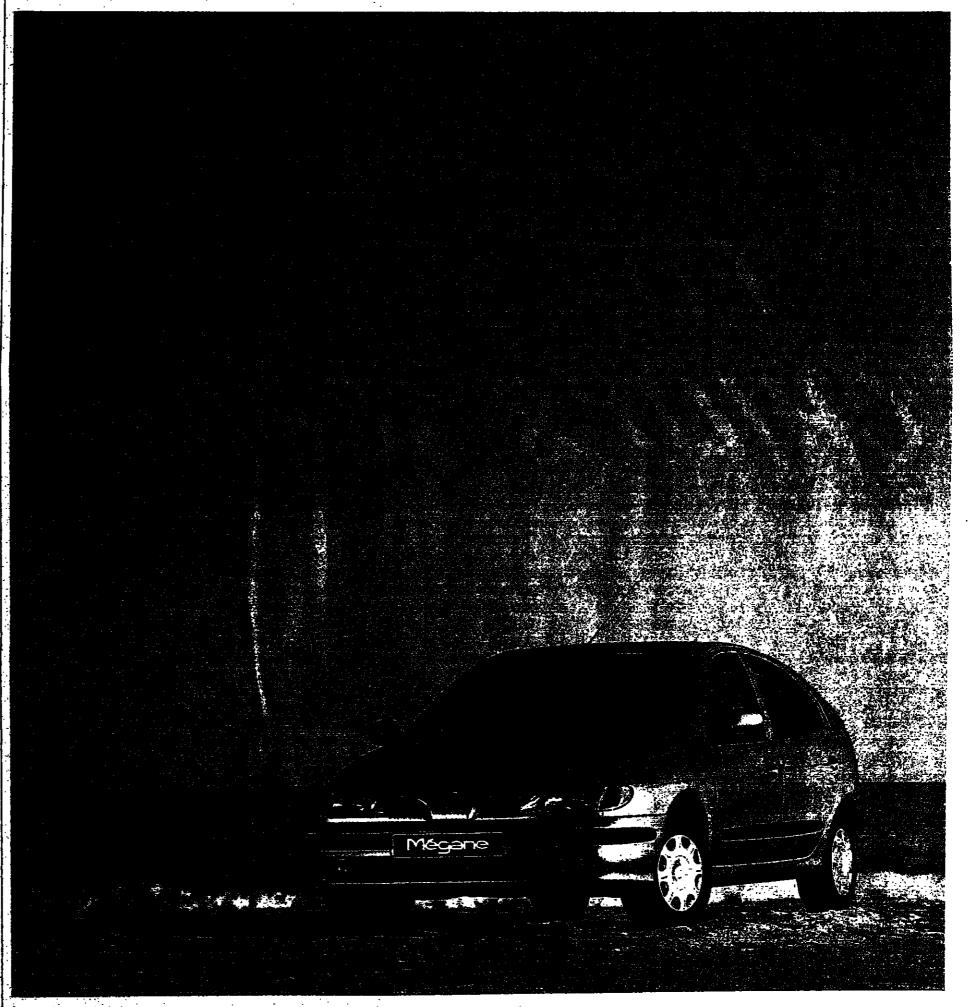
Jail convoy ambushed

esburg. Armed men in Soweto ambushed a police convoy, killing two policemen and enabling 21 prisoners who were being taken to court to escape. Four of them surrendered. Twenty prisoners broke out of Johannesburg jails over the Christmas holiday, but prison authorities say that they have out escapes: there were 480 last year compared with 1,069 in 1997. (AFP)

Goldminers trapped

Jakarta: Nine illegal goldminers died and another 21 were miss-ing after heavy rams set off a landslide at an Indooesian government-owned mine. It was the third fatal landslide since July at Pongkor mine near Bogor, about 50 miles southeast of here. Twenty people died in the other accidents. On Saturday, wooden props at an entrance collapsed, trapping miners inside. (AP)

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AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS face starvation and death after the United Nations suspension of flights

to parts of Angola.

The UN action, ordered after two of its aircraft were shot down, has sparked fears that Unita rebels intend to overrun towns held by the Government and sheltering hundreds of thousands of refugees. The Union for the Total Independence of Angola ap-pears ready to sacrifice thou-sands of civilian lives in its attempts to take Huambo as well as Luena in the east and

Kuito, which is under siege. The UN aircraft were shot down near Huambo, in the centre of the country, which has been under heavy attack by Unita for the past few weeks, it emerged yesterday that the son of the missing



pilot of the first crashed aircraft was on board the second plane. Hilton Wilkinson, 25, was in Angola helping to find his missing father when his UN flight was shot down on Saturday. His father. John Wilkinson, has been missing since his UN C130 with 13 other people on board crashed in the same area on Boxing Day. An aid worker in Luanda

said yesterday: "There are about 150,000 residents and

another 100,000 refugees who are in desperate need of food and medicines in Huambo. If we are unable to reach them, the chances are that they will

Huambo is close to the headquarters of Dr Jonas Savimbi and his rebels at Andolo and Bailundo. Unita, rearmed and re-

trained under the noses of the

UN's observers since 1994 when Dr Savimbi pledged to demobilise his private army. has launched an offensive on a bewildering number of fronts. Aided, according to security sources, by retired white South African generals acting as "mercenary consultants". Unita's fronts have closed in on Kuito and are starting to throw a noose round Luena.

Cut off from ground supply

lines by the rebels, hundreds

of thousands of civilians face

daily bombardment by Uni-



John Wilkinson, left, the South African UN pilot missing in Angola, and his son Hilton, who is also missing

ta's long-range artillery and mortars. In 1993, Kuito was reduced to rubble during a sixmonth siege that killed thousands of people and resulted in international outrage.

Now that Unita has been blamed for shooting down two UN aircraft, it is clear that Dr Savimbi has lost interest entirely in making friends externally. Rather, he has opted to

frighten aid agencies out of the skies, which leaves the government troops and civilian popu-

lations at his mercy. There have also been reports that his men have been

murdering priests, teachers, administration officials and other educated people in the east of the country in what one security source described as a "Pol Pot-style Year Zero".

Combat role for women

BY ROGER MAYNERD

THE prospect of Autualian women being ordered into hand-to-hand conbat alongside men cane a step closer yesterday after the Chief of the Delence Staff agreed that women ed from the front line But Admiral Chris Bar ry's views were condem-ned by old soldiers or anisations; they said women did not have the physique to serve in such roles.

Bruce Ruxton pres dent of the Returned Serv ices League in Victoria, said that such a me would be unacceptable to most Australians. It would be a sad day if this country started to women into the front line

with the infantry," he said.

Colonel Keith Jobson, Director General of Public Affairs for the Australian Defence Force, moved to play down the row. saying that deploying women in combat roles was still some time away.

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SEE THE BACK PAGE OF SECTION ONE FOR TODAY'S TOKEN **CHANGING TIMES**

Fatwa dampens Saudi rulers' celebrations

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

SAUDI ARABIA'S top religious leader has dealt a blow to the country's elaborate prep-arations for the centenary of the ruling dynasty by issuing a fatwa condemning the pro-posed celebrations as heresy.

Mufti Abdul Aziz Abdallah ibn Baz, the senior religious leader, said the plans for the extensive festivities later this month to mark the 100th anniversary of the capture of Ri-yadh by Abdul Aziz al-Saud, founder of the kingdom, were an imitation of non-believers.

Pamphlets circulating in Riyadh underlined the reservations of the conservative religious establishment to the elaborate festivities. Riyadh was captured in 1902, and the centenary falls this year according to Islamic lunar calculations. Saudi Arabia was for-Saud, who unified most of the Arabian peninsula, and all its subsequent Kings have been

his sons. The intensely conservative Muslim establishment of the central region, including Riyadh, recognises only two festivals: Eid al-Fitr, marking the end of Ramadan, and Eid al-Adha. commemorating the sacrifice of a ram by Ibraham, the prophet known to Jews and Christians as Abraham.

Saudi Arabia is making much of the anniversary, and in the next two months has organised a series of ceremonies and public celebrations to which the country's civil and religious leaders as well as for-

eign guests have been invited. In Riyadh a big construction project will celebrate Saudi his-tory at a cost of some £100 million. It aims to restore cultural. economic and administrative activities, and revive archi-

tecture in an area that has suffered from economic and physical decay. It will include a new national museum, a landscaped park, renovated mud buildings and a new library and auditorium.

The opposition of conservatives to these secular celebrations has already forced the Government to tone down the festivities. Decorations and coloured lights have been re-moved from the shops. The Government has also cited the celebrations as a reason for pulling out of the Asian . Games in Thailand.

Decorations and coloured lights have vanished from shop windows ?

The Saudi Government is extremely sensitive to criticism by serior Muslim clergy, but has taken tough measures to suppress the fundamentalist preachers, especially around Riyadh, who have denounced the ruling family and criti-cised Saudi Arabia's friendly relations with the West.: -

The fatwa, first issued three years ago by the Grand Mufti, also condemns the holding of birthday parties and exchanging presents on events such as birthdays or the opening of shops and schools. The same applied to companies and institutions marking anniversaries. Copies have been stuck on walls and at the entrances to mosques in the past week.

Death row **Filipino** wins a reprieve

IN MANILA

A RAPIST condemned to die was saved at the eleventh hour yesterday by a Philippines Supreme Court decision to postpone the execution provoking an angry response from President Estrada, but delighting opponents of capi-tal punishment.

The court order suspended the execution of Leo Echegaray, a house painter, until June 15 in response to a petition by his lawyers on the ground that legislators wanted to debate the death penalty. Hundreds of death row prisoners who had been holding a prayer vigil for two days erupt-ed into applause when the news came, three hours before

he was due to die. Priests pray-ing at a makeshift chapel 500 yards from the execution chamber jumped in the air. Nuns and activists burst into a religious song, their eyes brimming with tears. His wife of a week. Zenaida, fainted. Earlier Echegaray had broken down and cried re-



Echegaray: wept in the execution chamber

peatedly while confessing to a priest and hearing Mass in the execution chamber. In all 864 people are on death row. Among them are three foreigners, including Albert Ernest Wilson, 46, o Kent, convicted in October of raping his 12-year-old stepdaughter. He is appealing

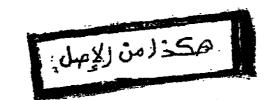
against his conviction.

The last-minute decision aborted the country's first execution in 22 years. The death penalty was abolished in 1987 but restored in 1994 amid popular ciamour after a spate of spectacular crimes involv-

ing murders and rapes. The chegaray, 38, was senten ced for the 1996 rape of his daughter, then II. He was to be executed by lether injection at 3pm and had been taken to the death chamber to be pre-

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BY BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE White House yesterday turned a cold shoulder to calls for President Clinton to postpone his State of the Union address if the Senate has not finished his impeachment trial.

The Senate, which convenes tomorrow, looks set to begin on Monday the historic trial on whether to remove Mr Clinton from office after his impeachment last month by the House of Representatives.

As preparations gather steam, Republican Senate leaders, who have been among Mr Clinton's bitter critics, are appalled at the political risk to their party of a long-drawn-out fight, which still appears to lack

public support.
For weeks Trent Lott, the Senate's Majority Leader, has been working with Tom Daschle, leader of the Democratic minority, to drum up support for a "circuit breaker" to allow the impeachment debate to be

cut short quickly.
They want a quick recitation of the facts, no witnesses, and an immediate vote. But even though the party whips reckon opposition to Mr Clinton in the Senate falls far short of the two thirds needed to oust him from office, conservatives are insisting on a full-scale

"I would be very sceptical of bypassing what I think is our constitutional duty to have a full airing of the evidence," said Republican Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas. Conservatives were yesterday campaigning against the suggestion of a "test yote" on whether Mr Clinton's offences justified his removal from office, as a device to cut the trial short.

With the length of the trial still unclear, leading senators from both parties called on Mr Clinton to delay his annual address to the American people, delivered in front of both houses of Congress, currently scheduled for January 19.

Washington wives make bid for power

- IN WASHINGTON

THE clearest indications yet were given yesterday that Hillary Clinton plans to launch her own political career as preparations continued for her husband's Senate trial.

A senior Democratic senator suggested that Mrs Clinton will leave the White House before the end of her husband's term to make a new home in New York from where she will run for the Senate. A magazine also reported a conversation in which President Clinton suggested she should run for office from the same state.

The revelations came as Elizabeth Dole, the wife of Bob Dole, Mr Clinton's Republican opponent in the 1996 presidential election, announced at a press conference last night that she was resigning as presi-dent of the American Red Cross. This is seen as a precursor to her own run for the White House.

Robert Torricelli, the New Jersey senator and head of the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, said that he believed Mrs Clinton would take up residency in New York before her husband's term ends to run for the seat vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the distinguished Democrat who is retiring in 2000. He made



Hillary Clinton: "To quit White House early"

his comments off-camera to Tim Russert of NBC's Meet the Press, who later disclosed the "mini bombshell".

Mrs Clinton's office maintained its stance of dismissing reports about her future as speculation. But Vanity Fair yesterday released advance copies of a forthcoming 15,000word report on the Clintons' marriage which included an account of a fundraising dinner in the Hamptons last sum-mer. When Mrs Clinton's speech was drowned out by ap-

plause, Mr Clinton reportedly turned to Judith Hope, chairwoman of the New York State Democratic Party, and said: They really love her in New York," to which Ms Hope reshould consider running for office in New York." Ms Hope: Well, that's what I think. "

There has been talk of Mrs Clinton running for the seat since Mr Moynihan announced his retirement last year. During the November election campaign, with her popularity at an all-time high, she helped Charles Schumer to beat Alfonse D'Amaio, the Republican, in the other New York Senate seat and has spent a conspicuous amount of time socialising in the city. The Vanity Fair article, by

Gail Sheehy, also gives new insights into how Mrs Clinton keeps going in the face of em-barrassing disclosures about her husband's affair with Monica Lewinsky. In a rare interview, her mother. Dorothy Rodham, said: "She was able to do this because she had a commitment to her daughter somebody outside of her own problems that she was be-

ing strong and positive for." After talking to 50 of the Clintons' closest friends and aides, Sheehy concluded that Mrs Clinton continued to stand by her husband because she loves him, recognises him as an emotionally battered child, and relishes her role as his protector. He is also her one "addiction".

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Elizabeth Dole, the wife of Bob Dole, who has announced that she is resigning as president of the American Red Cross in order to launch a political career

Midwife adds fuel to Clinton birth row

By Damian Whitworth

THE lingering mystery over the identity of President Clinton's father took a new twist yesterday after the midwife who delivered him contradicted his mother's account of his biπh.

Mr Clinton was brought up to believe that he was fathered by Bill Blythe, a travelling salesman and accused bigamist, who was killed in a car accident two months before the future President was born. But Mr Clinton's biographer. David Maraniss, discovered that there were whispers about his parentage in his home town of Hope, Arkansas, at the time of his birth because nine months earlier Blythe had still been serving in the army in Italy.

The author was contacted by the family of a Louisiana man who appeared to have been having an affair with Virginia, President Clinton's freespirited mother, at the time of his conception. She dismissed the gossip by saying that young Bill was born prematurely after she had suffered a

tracked down Wilma Booker. the nurse whom President Clinton apparently used to refer to as "the first person to spank my butt", she denied he was born prematurely. "Not at

The former midwife added: 'I remember he was a nice size baby, between eight and nine

Iraq makes veiled threats to the safety of UN Britons

- FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IRAQ, in a fresh challenge to London and Washington, informed the United Nations yesterday that it could no longer guarantee the safety of British and American staff working on UN humanitarian projects in the country. Iraqi diplomats delivered the veiled threat in an "aide memoire" after being pressed by the UN to supply written clarification of earlier verbal warnings in Baghdad.
The letter, not even written on official

notepaper, explained that the Iraqi Government could not protect British and Ameri-

tions' airstrikes last month. Western diplomats ridiculed the idea that Iraq, a police state, could not protect UN staff if it wanted to "It's a manced way of saying 'Get them out of the country," one diplomat said.

UN officials sought to play down the confrontation, but said the dispute was being taken "very seriously". The UN has tradi-tionally insisted that it has the right to select its international staff. When Iraq objected to American nationals serving in the country with the UN Special Commission in 1997, the UN responded by withdrawing all its weapons inspectors of whatever nationality. Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General,

bend to Iraq's threats and pull out the British and American staff. His aides were due to brief the Security Council last night to gauge its reaction. The UN has about 420 international staff in Iraq working for various UN agencies and administering the "oil-for-food" programme that allows Bagh-dad to sell limited quantities of oil to finance purchases of food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies. A total of 12 Britons and one American are said to be affected by Iraq's warning - although about eight of them are thought to be outside the country on leave. Five of the Britons are employed in a mine clearance project in the rates, but still require entry visas from Baghdad. Several of the other British staff work as inspectors monitoring Iraq's oil exports. UN officials say Baghdad has not objected to two Britons working for UN agencies in the government-run part of the country. nor to a secretary with a top UN official in Baghdad. The warning also did not seem to extend to British staff of Lloyd's Register who oversee imports of humanitarian sup-

plies at border crossings.

□ No-fly zones: Iraqi aircraft probed the edges of the US-enforced no-fly zones over Iraq during the past several days without drawing retaliatory attacks by US war-

The incursions were the latest in a series of Iraqi challenges to the no-fly zones in the wake of last month's four-day "Desert Fox" air campaign by US and British forces. "There have been instances in the past several days of Iraqi aircraft attempting to fly on the edge of the no-fly zone and even entering the no-fly zone for brief periods," said the Pentagon official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. The White House said the US would continue to enforce the no-fly zones. "It is an important part of our containment policy limiting his [Saddam's] ability to threaten his neighbours and repress his own people," said Joe Lockhart, a



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Jennifer Turnbull first met her natural father when he was 71. Only her knowledge of the phenomenon of genetic sexual attraction enabled her to overcome his mixed emotions

Forbidden desires

remember meeting my natural father for the first time at Gatwick airport: a few hours snatched between flights. It was a highly charged event, particularly as his wife was with him and I felt like the other woman in an affair. I wanted him to accept me and acknowledge that I was a successful person in my own right to be proud of me even though

When Jennifer Turnbull met her natural father, she was shocked to discover that he was attracted to her

more relaxed occasion. We had already sized each other up mentally and physically, so I did not have the same feelings of anticipation. Since we ask the questions I couldn't he had no part in my upbring ask at our first meeting. Did ing. The second meeting, in he love my mother, who gave ask at our first meeting. Did

me up for adoption and who died before I could meet her? What was she like?

He had booked two rooms in an hotel, in the centre of town. As I checked in I realthat we were having a relationship. I was told that "my friend" had already checked in

ner outside the hotel did little to dispel the myth that something was afoot. We were joking about this doctor, said that he was sexually attracted to me. He then asked if I felt the same. I was shocked, disgusted and embar-

rassed that this man should be expressing such inappropriate feelings towards me. I managed to blurt out that I couldn't think of him in that way because he was my father. It was then that I remembered that the social worker had mentioned similar cases. There was even a name for this seemingly incestuous desire - genetic sexual attrac-tion (GSA). The rest of our meeting passed without event.

and was directed to the room.

A bay cruise followed by din-

We managed to salvage an amicable relationship, and never referred to the subject again. A social worker later

explained that for my natural father, my birth mother with whom he had enjoyed a brief affair - was frozen in his memory as an attractive young woman. Meeting me was like seeing my birth mother again, with all the feelings that he had had for her at that time. But the explanation, sen-sible as it sounded, did not put me completely at ease. I needed to know if other people had had similar experiences. I wondered whether I had inadvertently caused this to happen. I had been careful about my appearance, but that was all part of wanting to be accepted. It is now recognised that many adopted people can have similar feelings about

tives may also be due to strong incest taboo. Despite the passionate and

either one or both parents, or

about a birth brother or sister,

when they meet for the first

time. If someone wants to

trace a relative and contacts

an organisation such as the

will probably learn about it.

"It is impossible to get accu-

rate figures but from people I

have interviewed and the reac-

tions I have had after talking

on the subject, genetic sexual-

attraction seems to be very

common," says Dr Maurice Greenberg, consultant psychi-atrist and psychotherapist at University College London,

and adviser to the Post Adop-

from an intense sexualised

feeling and wanting a rela-

tionship, to simply fancying

their relative. It can happen

between any combination of relatives, and can be hetero-

selves. "People are often struck

by how similar their long-lost relative is," Dr Greenberg

says. "They comment on faces,

manner, attitudes and, very

commonly, smell. Many say

that the reunion was like look-

ing in a mirror."
This implies that incest should be fairly common. Indeed, Dr Greenberg

believes that there is "prob-

ably some sexualised behav-

iour in families, especially

between siblings. Boredom,

however, sets in well before

such feelings can be consum-

mated. The rarity of sexual

relationships between rela-

ne theory, he says.

is that people are attracted to people

similar to them-

sexual or homosexual."

The experiences range

tion Centre.

complex emotions involved, it is also rare for reunions to result in physical relationships. What remains for some time, however, is a magnetic pull, which resembles the excitement of falling in love. While I did not share this

experience when I met my if I was out on a date. I wasn't physically attracted to him. but I wanted to impress, I wanted him to like me and yet I didn't want to touch or be touched.

How would Dr Greenberg react if one of his patients chose to embark on such a reiationship? "I would try to take the morality out of the situation," he says. "If it is a parent-child relationship, I would point out that the parent was not fulfilling their parental duty by encouraging it. I would warn them of the dangers — the greatest likelihood is that it will all end in tears. with a lot of pain and upset. would discourage it but I wouldn't want to close the

door so that they couldn't come back and talk." Genetic sexual attraction is little discussed outside support groups and psychology research papers. The proximity to incest makes it a delicate subject to discuss and yet it has social, psychological and anthropological significance. Being aware of this phenomenon was without doubt the most important preparation I could have had for my reunion. Had I not known of it, I am sure that I would not have wanted to continue the relationship or even the

evening together.
Now, however, we remain on good terms, and I can finally learn about the father ! thought I would never know.

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A new, safer substitute for HRT

introduced in 1998, a bumper search, it would be difficult to close its doors. Somewhere in the medicine chest there may well be Viagra, the hallmark drug of 1998, but it is a safe bet that the pale blue, diamondshaped tablets will be buried away from prying eyes. If the master of the house has not had his potency confirmed with Viagra, the inquisitive may be tempted to search among the butter in the refrigcrator for MUSE, the recently introduced intra-urethral pellet which is also a useful treatment for erectile dysfunction.

Researchers have not devoted all their efforts to male problems. One of the great advances in 1998 was the introduction of the first SERM. This is the rather unattractive acronym selective destrogen receptor modulator — used to describe a compound that produces some destrogen-like effects but in other ways does not act as an oestrogen at all or, if it does, acts in a clinically insignificant way. Evista (ralo-xifene) is the first SERM and it is hoped that it will have many of the oestrogenic advantages of HRT without some of its major drawbacks.

The casualty rate from osteoporosis in the form of fractured hips, wrists or vertebrae is unacceptably high and makes osteoporosis one of the leading killers. However, a MORI noll commissioned by Breakthrough Breast Cancer in September 1998 showed that women's foremost health anxiety was breast cancer. This fear prevented some women from taking HRT to the detriment of their bones, their hearts and their arteries (and perhaps, too, to their intellect in old age, as there is a suggestion that low oestrogen levels are associated with an increased incidence of Alzheimer's).

The search has therefore been on for a preparation, an SERM, that would protect the bones and arteries but would not adversely affect the breasts. The initial trials of Evista showed that it increased bone density in between 60 and 70 per cent of users. The increased rate was slightly less than would be expected from the use of standbrai fracture was reduced by non-invasive breast cancer.

IF THE medicine cabinet was more than 40 per cent, which to include all the useful drugs was similar to that of HRT. The latest trial has shown, in year for pharmaceutical re fact, that after three years the chances of a woman taking Evista having a vertebral fracture are reduced by 55 per cent. If she has had one fracture already, the chances of her having another are reduced by 30 per cent.
Evista also causes changes in blood far levels, which are

likely to lead to a reduction in cardiovascular disease. The overall cholesterol goes down but, even more importantly. the level of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, which causes the damage to the arterial wall, is appreciably reduced, as is the level of another clotting agent - fibrinogen. HRT may have a deleterious effect on the lining of the uterus but this is not observed in those taking an SERM. Likewise, those taking Evista are not

MEDICINE

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

troubled by cyclical vaginal bleeding. There is no effective drug

with no side-effects. An appreciable minority of patients taking Evista will notice some degree of hot flushes, and a much smaller number will have an increased incidence of leg cramps and puffy feet. rare but more serious side ef fect is the greater likelihood, as with HRT, of clots and hence emboli from the veins

The best news about this SERM is that, despite its oes trogenic effect in bone strength ening and cholesterol reduction, Evista seems to have no adverse effect on the breasts in fact, much the contrary. Ata conference just before Christmas, Professor Craig Jordan of the Northwestern Univers ty Medical School Illinois gave the results of treating 10,000 post-menopausal won-en with Evista for more than three years. There was a 63 per cent reduction in the incidence of newly diagnosed invasive breast cancers, and a 55 per cent overall reduction in both

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Richard Cork on Rachel Whiteread's controversial new exhibition Pages 31-33

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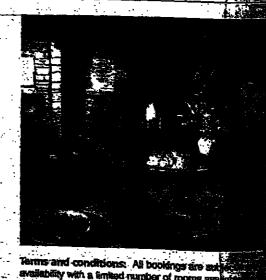


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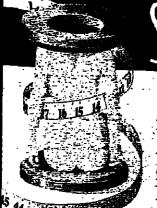
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In the second extract from his new book, Dr Robert C. Atkins reveals how dieters can eat fat, have second helpings and still lose weight

physical urges are hard to combat. armed only with willpower and determination works, at best, for only five low-fat dieters out of 100. But the Atkins programme bypasses the need to rely on willpower — you'll be able to lose weight even while eating second and third helpings of traditional main courses.

This diet works for several reasons: first, it creates more fat mobilisation than any other regime. Sheer hunger is behind most diet failure, but a low-carbohydrate programme is not austere - the main austerity is the abandonment of sugar and such refined carbohydrates as white flour, but most people find that, once they shake off the sugar addiction, they feel no strong desire to go back to it. Furthermore, this diet is

healthy. I found this out when I first put patients on it 25 years ago, and they began to recover from a whole range of conditions, such as yeast infection, hypoglycaemia and food intolerances. Some people believe that the Atkins diet is bad for the heart - we all know that cream, butter and red meat causes heart attacks, and

that these will make symptoms worse. But I'm a cardiologist by training, and have spent a-lot of my life treating cardiac patients, and almost from the first moment that I began using the diet I saw the good effect it had on my patients.

Admittedly, some individuals are fat-sensitive and will deterol level on a high fat diet. than on a low fat diet. But there is a fixation on the idea that, if fat and cholesterol are eaten, cholesterol levels will surely rise. The consensus is that any fat must not amount to more than 30 per cent of ourtotal intake. And if our most eminent scientists seem to be in accord, then we ordinary people must conclude that

lents. But are they? Certainly low-fat diets and

satisfying diets aren't equivalents: fat has earned its high place in the cuisines of the world because of its satisfying taste, richness and capacity to satiate appetite. But the assertion that eating a significant percentage of fat in your diet will take you briskly down the road to heart disease and cancer is simplistic. Medical studies cast serious doubt on these claims. Population studies that show an association between high fat and heart disease are, simultaneously, studies show-

Scale down on carbohydrates

ing that diets high in refined carbohydrates are associated with heart disease, and with

Anyway, the Atkins diet is: time. I have always maintained that, as the work of the British nutritionist Dr John Yudkin illustrated as a rule fation a ketogenic/lipolytic diet than they do on their usual fare. That is a direct result of one of fat's greatest virtues ie, when carbohydrates are restricted fat causes a profound induction of satiety; in other

words, you're less hungry.

Then there is physical appearance. Have you ever stud-ied the features of one of tothere is incontrovertible evi- ers? True, their bodies look dence that eating the amount great, but examine their faces of fat we as a nation do is Do you see the dry skin, the harmful to our health. We cannot but accept that low-fat diet and the deep furrows in the

and healthy diet are equiva- lines that extend from the side of the nose to the side of the mouth? Atkins dieters do not get that look.

Once you have completed the Induction part of the Atkins plan, the next stage is the Ongoing Weight Loss (OWL) diet. On the former you were on the strictest level of low-carbohydrate dieting, consuming 15 to 20 grams of carbohydrate. The diet was extremely law to demonstrate lipolysis for everybody, from the person who can lose weight quite easily on almost any diet to the hardest case. This next stage is a somewhat more liberalised version of the diet. Here you will find out the most liberal level of carbohydrates you can consume but still continue taking off excess pounds -- your critical carbohydrate level for losing (CCLL).

There are two ways to determine your CCLL. You can find the actual number by increasing the quantity of carbohydrate you eat beyond that one salad you are on the Induction level. As you carry out this increase measure the grams of carbohydrate in each of your additions. Eventually you'll reach a number at which you stop losing — your CCLL Your CCLL will be 45 grams, or 32, or maybe 19. Above it, you lose no more, or you begin to gain. Below it, you're losing weight.

The other way to calculate your CCLL is to increase your not about eating fat all the carbohydrate consumption steadily until your weight loss becomes imperceptible. You'll see roughly how much salad and vegetables you're eating and as long as you have a good eye for constant quantities, you'll be all right.

One warning: everyone hits

25 to 90 grams a day.)

A small percentage will stop

losing weight after reaching 20 to 25 grams of carbohydrate daily. If you're one of these, you'll have to adapt to eating

not much more carbohydrate

than is on the Induction diet.

And to stay slim and healthy,

increased exercise - which I

strongly recommend - is es-

sential. If you are over 35, con-sult your GP before undertaking any exercise more strenuous than brisk walking.

• Extracted from Dr Atkins'

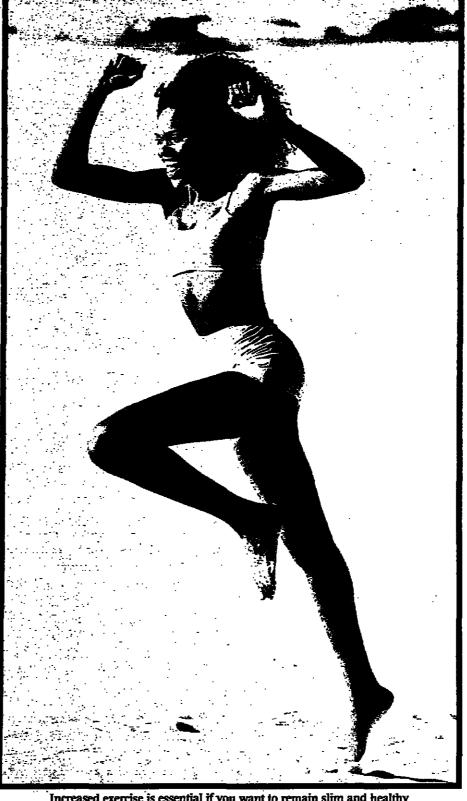
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plateaux, when no weight

comes off. The first few periods in which you fail to lose weight will most likely be plateaux and almost never represent the reaching of the CCLL. To identify your CCLL, you must ascertain that you are neither losing pounds nor inches for several weeks. (At a later stage of the diet, when you've lost almost all the desired weight, you pass from the Ongoing Weight Loss diet, through the important Pre-Maintenance phase, and go on to the Maintenance diet. At that point there will be another landmark level: your critical carbohydrate level for Maintenance will be the highest number of grams of carbobydrate you can consume without gaining back weight. For most now-slim Atkins dieters.



Increased exercise is essential if you want to remain slim and healthy that number will range from

MEAL PLANNER IDEAS FOR THE ONGOING DIET May include 90ml (3fl oz) of V-8 juice or tomato juice,

60g (20z) onion rings pan-fried to a crisp, 1 slice of a 4-5g crispbread, 1 slice fresh orange (5mm/ 4 in thick) as a garnish, 2 slices of buttered and toasted diet bread eggs, separated, 2 thsp soured cream, 30g (1oz) melted butter, 40g (1oz) soya flour, 1tbsp baking powder, Preheat oven to 180C/350F/Gas Mark 4. Combine yolks with ingredients. Best egg whites until stiff, fold into

Prewn and crabmest or tuna mayonniase in a fresh toma: (14 oz) mozzarella cheese, sliced medium tomato and 30g (102) grated Parmesan cheese. Grill Two servings, with carb. grams of 11.5

avocado, 470ml (17fl oz) whipping cream, 230ml/ (8fl oz) water, ½tsp celery salt, ½ small clove gartic, minced 8 slices streaky bacon cooked crisp, Peel avocado and

au vin.Side dishes: broccoli frittata, Brussels sprouts, crisped.

Desserts: Fruit lelly: vanilla ice-cream: lemon mousse tall made with suga viss snack – 110g (4oz) Emmenthal cheese, cubed into eight wrap

it. Liquidise with cream, water, salt, and gartic. Cook over medium heat fo

METABOLIC RESISTANCE

EVERYONE loses weight with the same ease, even when following a lowcarbohydrate diet.

For people with high meta-bolic resistance — those who find it harder to lose weight their critical carbohydrate level for losing (CCLL) will be 15 grams of carbohydrate a day or less, and rise to 25 to 40 grams on the Maintenance

For average metabolic resistance, the CCLL is 15 to 40. and will rise to 40 to 60. For low metabolic resistance, the CCLL is 40 to 60, and the maintenance level 60 to 90. and the weight loss is too rapid (ie. exceeding one pound a day), you might de-velop slightly debilitating symptoms or weakness, nresumably caused by sodium or potassium shifts. These can be corrected by the simple measure of tripling or quadrupling the vegetable intake and slowing the weight loss down.

Another problem that people occasionally experience are leg cramps during the night — this is caused by a rapid excretion of calcium and almost invariably indicates that the dieter has not followed the recommenda-

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RATE-WATCHING

NOW that you're liberalising the diet, you should expect to see a gradual decrease in your rate of loss. The rate will also be slower, as on any diet, as you near your ideal weight. Plan to take two or more months to shed the last ten pounds. This will put you on the next stage: the Pre-Maintenance level.

you on the next stage: the Pre-Maintenance level.

Meanwhile, remember that some common foods have surprising amounts of carbohydrate. A grapefruit has around 20 grams, an apple only slightly less. Measure that against the fact that some 40 per cent of metabolically overweight women can't lose unless they eat less than 30 grams of carbohydrate a day! Those, they, are foods that you may have to eat in great moderate of the street and the

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there will be time enough to try them on the Maintenance diet.

Tony takes a walk on the Wilde side

The Third Way has always led

to ruin, says Michael Gove

The Third Way has claimed its third victim. Charlie Whelan, like Geoffrey Robinson and Peter Mandelson before him, has become a victim of Blairism. The traditional approach to

impropriety in high places, the First Way, exemplified by Peter Carrington after the Falklands invasion, was to admit wrongdoing and resign. The Second Way, being tried by Bill Clinton at the moment, is to deny the charge and then tough it out. The Third Way. we can now see, involves a vigorous denial of any impropriety. And then resignation. transcends boundaries, not of Right and Left, but right and wrong. Not since Christmas 2,000 years ago, we are asked to believe, has there been such a massa-

cre of the Innocents. Peter and Geoffrey did nothing wrong, but they had to go. Charlie didn't tell anyone what Peter and Geoffrey did. and in any case it wasn't, of course, wrong. But he has to go. The only people who have done something wrong are the press. Why, one hears Mr Blair sigh on the Equator, don't they just go and . . .

we succumb to the temptation to sym-pathise with the The Blair Prime Minister we 'project' is should realise that he has no one to simply a blame but himself. clique may have been a wasting asset ever clinging to since he was filmed by Scottish Televipower sion boasting of how he misled the Nemesis

may have been inevitable for the man who was, according to one No 10 source, "a little

The High Priest of the Third Way is himself at fault. For two things. His "project" is driven by calculation, not principle, and his Government in consequence operates as a court, not an enterprise.

ites reter, and which John Prescott treats with the same wary disdain as a long-clawed plained. The Blairite aim is the realignment of British politics. The "project" requires Labour to win a second term and involves the adoption of the euro, the re-engineering of the constitution and the absorption of the Liberal Democrats to create a natural "centre-left"

majority on continental lines. It is both ambitious and limited. It is ambitious in that it seeks to alter the political geography of Britain as comprehensively as any Sixties planner changed the geography of our cities. But it is limited in that it does not seek, as Margaret Thatcher, Clement Attlee, or even William Gladstone did with their huge majorities, to apply consistent ideological principle to the challenges of the age. It is about entrenching a clique's hold on power, not advancing

policies for the nation. Mr Blair is, of course, aware that he should have a philosophy, much as Oscar Wilde was aware that he needed a wife. He finds it hard to be passionate about the idea, but respectable opinion makes it Third Way. Oscar Wilde tried that, too, neither old bachelor nor new man but something quite novel. And we know where that ended.

The Third Way in foreign policy has meant neither wagnor constructive engagement with Iraq, but bombing him just enough to raily his people. It has meant neither ending arms exports, nor defending them, but combining their sale with lectures on ethics. Robin Cook is reduced to acting as though he were Mr Pecksniff turned pornographer.

neither privatising the Post Office, nor preserving its cur-rent value to the Treasury, but a spatchcock policy pithily summed up by a man called Balls as, well, just that, it has led to a policy in Northern Ireland which leaves the Province neither wholly British nor really Irish. It is, instead, awash with armed thugs responsible last year for hundreds of unpunished mutilations. More Sicilian, perhaps. than anything else.

In this absence of a clear ith something to believe in, Labour tried to find someone to believe in. Factions cluster around magnates for advancement. If you want to

Blair Government there is no need to engage a kobbying firm stuffed with ratchiks. Just go to the library for a copy of Alison Weir's

Lancaster and York: The Wars of the Roses. Its depiction of England under Henry Blair's Britain. Patronage is deployed by unscrupulous barons to develop their "affinities" of followers. A premium is placed on show, and the divisions between antagonists are all the more bitter for

being ideologically obscure to onlookers. Gordon Brown moves from being Blair's best monetarist buddy to John Prescott's Keynesian ally with the inscrutable ease of Warwick the Kingmaker switching from Lancastrian to Yorkist. Lowlier ministers concentrate not on developing poli-

cies for the good of the people. but currying favour with a magnate to keep hold of office. How else can one explain the persistence in office of Alan Meale? This minister, who has made headlines with his freelance lobbying for curious businessmen, is in office only because of his friendship with John Prescott. The last reshuffle may have seen off some than loyalty to the Chancellor, can one explain the continuance in office of Dawn Primarolo, or Doug Henderson?

The facile will say that Mr Whelan had to go because his personality obscured the message. But there is no message There are only personalities, trying to find the Third Way to the Second Term. But without

michael.gove@the-times.co.uk | ments, insouciantly booking the usu-



"WHERE'S THE SPIN DOCTOR WHEN YOU NEED ONE?"

A note to the head

entertained. Five days in, and already 1999 offers vintage candidates for Pratfall of the Year, Prig of the Year, and Mystery Document of the Year: all rolled up in a story of stupendous triviality and maximum Prime Ministerial embar-

The pratfall, of course, is the fact that during the Blairs' well-earned holiday in the sun, David Hart, of the National Association of Head Teachers, decided to torpedo the escape fantasies of new year travel supple-ments by condemning parents who "damage their children's education" by taking a family holiday in term-time. Whereon the Education Secretary, who should have better antennae, echoed this headmasterly grumble and promised to lean hard on the travel industry over term-time

Well, we are all a bit nervous of headmasters, so the media response was muted. The back row merely muttered that chean deals are the only hope for some families, that teacher-training days constantly sabotage working parents, and that most employers ration staff holidays in August, so that a two-career family may never get one. And what about those who work in the tourist trade? Do they never get a family break? Yet even with all this muttering, there seemed to be a general sullen consensus that OK, the brats should

be in school. The only paper to swing its handbag with any real conviction was The Independent, which printed a magnificent leader saying how dare these minions, these "narrowminded bleating headteachers" lec-ture "free citizens" who hold the primary legal responsibility for education? Furiously, it advocated that heads taking such a line should automatically lose any chance of the salary incentives promised them". Phew. This column does not have the espionage resources to bring you full details of which Independent leader-writers are planning a freebie in St Anton with little Casimissima and Zoroaster, but you get the picture: outraged middle classes swelling up with guilty indignation, chippy heads squaring for a fight, and meanwhile Duane and Kylie's parents, who wisely ignore most public pronounceIn a daft debate about the Blair children

bunking off lies a more serious issue

al family tanfest bang in the middle

But then someone counts on his ngers, scratches his head, and Blaireens will not be back from the Seychelles today to begin the arduous-ly long state school Easter term. At this point the Prig Tendency starts competing for attention. A Downing Street spokesman says that the unfortunate children - the eldest of whom, may I remind you, is two full, years away from even mock GCSEs - will "get some sleep on the plane back and be back behind their desks on Wednesday". After 12 hours on a

night flight, breathing nasty air laced with faint chemical ning to force these children into school at 8.45am.? If so, I give notice that I personally shop them to the

Mind you, the Downing Street spokes-prig was only reacting to a stronger contender for the top award, the Headmaster of the London Oratory, John McIntosh. This model of professional discretion informed newspaper reporters that "as far as I am concerned, they should be back at school on Tuesday. They have not applied for a leave of absence and it's well known we take a strong line on this." He went on, as if auditioning for the John Cleese part in Clockwise: "I tell parents they must observe what I call the three Hs - haircuts, holidays and homework." If one thing unites all those I have strawpolled so far, it is the vulgar p-word word with which they describe a head teacher who courts tabloid fame by incontinently shooting off his

families. Especially as the plot thickens: Downing Street claims that Mrs Blair wrote a letter about the flight problem "some time ago". Don't miss the next exciting episode: will the head remember and apologise? Will the undelivered note be found by

mouth about the affairs of individual

forensic investigators stuck to a Murraymint in Euan's satchel? Or will Note-from-Mummygate run and run, with a loyal school secretary struggling to suppress the evidence by doctoring the files, and being foiled by a whistle blowing janitor (played in the movie by Dustin Hoffman with a limp), who pulls it from the shredder and passes it to Paul Routledge before being found suffocated in the gym?

On the wider question of in-term bolidaymaking, the only civilised response is to sit on the fence and throw rocks at both sides. Of course you are a fool to whisk GCSE candidates off to the

course with younger sure they catch up. It can be done: it often is, in fluey winter terms. But for schools -- particularly state schools, with terms weeks longer

than independents' - to ban all discretionary absence is both impossible and stupid.

Those parents who take it generally have good reason, financial or logistical. Most of them, I would guess, have younger children than the Blairs. Their instinct is that two weeks of united family life, foreign travel, shared adventure and outdoor exercise put enough into young minds and bodies to outweigh a small disruption of curricular learning. Or, to descend to the particular, if the Seychelles are the only place the Blair children can get their parents to themselves and relaxed, and Seychelles flights are awkward, the London Oratory can lump it.

Still, like all daft debates it echoes an underlying truth, especially about younger families. There is, in the early years, a secret struggle between schools and parents over who actually owns this kid. Amid all the fuss about working mothers' childcare we overlook the fact that a lot of parents feel a gut reluctance to feed an adored and appreciated child into a rigid system. It is not joy that makes us cry when our small, quirky individual is snuffed by a grey uniform. Moreover, the age of the fragmented family makes intact ones militantly proud. We are taking our children to France. You gotta problem, punk?"

I have to admit to a spectacular snatchback in our first child's first school year. We nervously announced that he would miss the summer term to sail 1,700 miles round mainland Britain with us, and could we please borrow some Roger Red-Hat books? Friends with children at tense little pre-preps warned us that the school would go bailistic, but the headmaster of our state primary — a great man, unaccounta-bly not yet knighted — said: "Crikey! He'll learn more doing that than we could teach him. The boy sent back weekly postcards which the class pasted to a large, wobbly outline of the UK, and returned a hero.

Five years later things had changed, with an irritating circular from the governors saying that although the LEA technically allowed for family holidays, odd days off would be put on record as "unauthorised absence" to count against the child in future life. We were planning a museum visit; glowering, I demanded why it was OK to miss school for a Costa but not for an educational day? The head advised a strategic cold: but things were changing, he explained, and something had come weirdly loose in parental attitudes to school. He was all for our kind of trip, but had to sound tough because of children being kept off on such bizarre grounds as "cousins visiting" or "birthday presents to play with". If the school didn't make threats, he said, parentally approved truancy would become routine.

Maybe this is what has alarmed David Hart into his joyless militancy. Maybe teachers now sense such general lack of respect for what they do la contempt long fuelled by governmental and Oisted insults that they lash their tails and snarl back. It is all quite fascinating. Beneath the bickering and intrigue, real questions squirm. Whose child is it anyway? What really helps it to grow? Does travel broaden the mind? How much difference does a day make? Discuss.

And by the way, a tenner says that Mrs Blair did write that letter. She's a lawyer. It's what they do.

comment@the-times.co.uk

up before you go, Gore

Wake me

Irwin Stelzer on his American nightmare

t he forecasters have had their America in 1999, and we now await the inevitable revisions as undoubtedly worry about the longerterm prospects for the world's only superpower. For those who like to think about that, I will share a recurrent nightmare.

It is 2001 and Al Gore is being sworn in as President of the Uning.

States after obliterating his Republican opponent. Indeed, so great is voter antipathy to those who believed that a perjurer should be removed from office, the Democrats gain control of both Houses of Congress. Gore had promised to bring an end o "humankind's assault on the Earth. In his apocalyptic book Earth in the Balance he had made clear to the voters that, in his view: "We must change those features of our free market ... economic philosophy that we know are flawed in light of the even encourage." And change them he will. Gore immediately introduces legislation to tighten all environmen-tal standards, even though told by his experts that the costs of compliance far exceed the benefits to be had from these regulations. American industry, saddled with a need to make billions of dollars of new investment, grumbles about becoming non-com-

pentive, but has to comply. The new President's antipathy to the internal combustion engine is a matter of record. He blames it for everything from the growth of the suburbs — he calls the process by which people find new homes "urban sprawl" and the "malling of America" - to dirty air, the latter despite the fact that cleaner cars and cleaner fuels have reduced auto pollution to lowest-ever levels. So it came as no surprise that he pushed up the price of period by three times. No longer can Americans casually decide to hop in their cars and visit granny, or afford a plane ticket to visit her if she

has moved to the Sun Belt.

Gore's election campaign was funded in good part by the trade unions, which also provided the doorbell ringers and foot soldiers that turned out the blacks, Hispanics and trade union members that provided him with his margin of victory — just as they had turned the 1998 congressional elections into a triumph for the Democrats and Bill Clinton. The new Speaker of the House, Dick Gephardt, has long been the darling of the trade unions. and is their chosen instrument for

getting their way. Gephardt calls on Gore to present his legislative calendar. Top of the list is a restriction on the importation of any goods produced in countries in which average wages fall below those in the United States, and which do not adopt the stringent environmental regulations that Gore has imposed on American businesses. The effect would be more damaging to the world economy than the Smoot-Hawley tariff that produced the Great Depression, but Gore is beholden to the unions and in no position to deny them their wish.

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The next visitor is Senator Edward Kermedy, who delivered to Gore the remnants of the Camelot constituency and the women's vote, over which he holds sway despite a personal history that suggests that his respect for the opposite sex is not total.
Kennedy has long sought a major increase in the minimum wage, and a universal healthcare plan funded entirely by taxes on employers. Gore, never as comfortable with limited government and the so-called Third Way as his predecessor, immediately agrees to back that legislation.

nd then there is the Hillary A problem. With Bill Clinton safely ensconced as president of a Hollywood studio, where he will make full use of all its resources, Hillary now wants something to do until a seat on the Supreme Count or in the Senate opens up. Since Kofi Annan isn't prepared to resign as Secretary-General of the United Na-tions to make room for Hillary, who now goes by the name Hillary Rodham, Gore parks her in his Cabinet, as Secretary of Health, C.

Education and Welfare.

Ms Rodham's first move is to seek an injunction against all fast-food shops, which have refused a compromise that would have allowed them to stay open if they converted to salad bars. She also declares caffeine a harmful drug, and bans the sale of coffee. This produces a run on

Brazil's currency, which throws alt of Latin America into recession.

Hillary then avenges past insults by banning all cigars, whether used for smoking or for the less noble purpose to which her now estranged

husband put them.
That last act so personalises the nightmare — a world without eights s hardly worth contemplating - that wake up in a cold sweat. After all it's only a dream. Or is it? Justwind!
part seems implausible?

The author is a Senior Felloward Hudson Institute

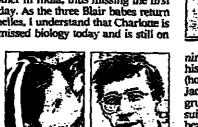
It's a habit

SKIVING off school is spreading round the Cabinet table. Jack Straw has followed the PM's example by taking his offspring abroad during term time. Charlotte Straw (pictured leh), daughter of the Home Secretary, is holidaying with her parents and brother in India, thus missing the first day of term at Pirulico School yesterday. As the three Blair babes return today from their sojourn in the Seychelles, I understand that Charlotte is not expected back for a week. "She missed biology today and is still on

holiday." I am informed. Charlotte, studying for A levels, is the younger sister to William - who on the previous Christmas Eve became our most famous teenager when he made the mistake of selling marijuana to an impressively built woman who turned out to be a tabloid investigator. This prompted dear papa to march William to the police.

The purpose of the family trip, along with Mrs Alice Straw, is to set young William off on the right track during his gap year. While William may have been diverted from the hippy trail. I am sure young Charlotte's school career has not gone up in smoke. "There is a lack of understanding amongst parents and Cabinet Ministers." David Harr, a union bod, tells me.

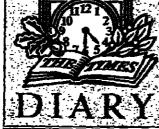
●NO great loss, Charlie Whelan. So say friends of Gordon Brown



There are seven buttons on his desk phone," I am told. "Ed Balls is on there but there's never been a button marked Charlie." Perhaps the Chancellor called his spinner on his mobile. More discreet.

Raising Caine

MICHAEL CAINE has stirred the delicate sensibilities of Leatherhead. The actor, who has swapped America for the more suburban delights of Surrey, has won plan-



ning permission to turn stables at his new pad into guest rooms (hopefully, not full of water beds, Jacuzzis, floating bars). Locals grumble that Caine's plan is "not suitable" and will set an "un-healthy precedent": Caine's letter to Mole Valley council explained that "he has no interest in horses".

SO how did the midget formerly Known as Prince spend new year? His important composition 1999 promised: Two thousand zero zero, party over, oops, out of time / and tonight I'm gonna parry like it's 1999." Instead, I am told: "Um, as far as I know he didn't really do anything New Year's Eve. Uh. no."

Soul mate THE man who put ripe brie into

towering theatrical talent to the sunny boulevards of Brixton, Soul. who played Hutch in the 1970s cop show that reamed him with a Mr Starsky, is to open at the Fridge, a bracing local nightclub.

In the front row will be one Antonio Fargas, alias Huggy Bear.

He will not be alone. Martin Bell winces loyally: "I had dinner with David last night and, work permitting. I'm planning to go along."

■ ROBERT CARLYLE'S Scottish burt has been translated for our Australian cousins. Carlyle, leading trouser in The Full Monty, was deemed incomprehensible in Look-



ing After Jo Jo, in which he stars as a drugs baron. "Viewers would not understand because the accents were so thick," says a corked hat at Oz TV. "We used subtitles rather than let them struggle on."

How fitting

THE Queen spent new year puzzing over a jigsaw. She was sent six examples by the British Jigsaw Puzzle Library. Its head. Pearl Crompton, chose the games. "Her Majesty likes country scenes, so I sent one called Farm World with lots of animals and a romanne one called Her Hunter of a man and woman with a horse." One popular puzzie did not make it --- a picture of Diana, Princess of Wales. "I thought that one might be a bit controversial," ventures our Pearl.

• JOHN PRESCOTT is to pulp the House of Commons Christmas tree to promote greeny ways. Unkind souls tell me he has nicknamed the dead tree "Peter".

Clear enough?
KIRSTY WARK, the porcelain face of Newsnight, is the latest target of

"crony-hunters". Ms Wark (pictured), who sat on the panel which chose the Scottish parliament build-



ing, has been awarded £186,000 of lottery bunce towards a three-part programme she is making about the project through her production company, Wark-Clements, Willie Rennie, chief executive of the Scottish Lib Dems, says: "It is up to her to make clear that there has been no financial gain. We need absolute transparency after recent events." Ms. Wark says she declared her link immediately and that she has "no further involvement in the parliament.

JASPER GERARD

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STORMS AND TEACUPS

Drift is the real danger that Blair must avoid

The departure of Charlie Whelan, the aspects of Mr Blair's project. His support Chancellor's colourful but destructive press secretary, is not likely in itself to prove of enormous consequence to the direction and fortunes of the Government. His resignation is best seen as a postscript to the dramatic events surrounding the fall of Peter Mandelson rather than a political sensation in its own right. Gordon Brown is entitled to appoint someone he trusts torepresent him before the media. It would be in the Chanceltor's interests, however, if that person did not unleash so much aggression on other Cabinet members.

The combination of the Mandelson affair itself and Tony Blair's absence abroad has allowed three potentially dangerous perceptions to creep up on his administration. The first is that a picture of fratricide and faction, in many quarters exaggerated, has been placed before the electorate. The second is that the entire new Labour experiment is dependent on an extraordinarily small number of people, the most central of whom, Mr Mandelson, has now left office under a cloud. The third, and most lethal, implication is that the Prime Minister's cause has been so damaged by these events that the traditionalist branch of the Labour Party. led by John Prescott in an alliance with Mr Brown, is destined to become ascendant in the year to come.

The evidence for all three assertions is, for the moment at least, less than compelling. This Government certainly contains more than its fair share of abrasive personalities and tender egos. That is perhaps not surprising after two decades of opposition and in light of the modest challenge to ministers that the Conservatives can currently muster. Mr. Whelan's demise offers the Prime Minister and Chancellor to draw a line under past feuds. Mr Mandelson, for all his talents. was still more closely associated with the presentation rather than the hard policy reasserting his personal political agenda.

for the single currency and electoral reform might, if followed, have led the Prime

Minister into truly precarious territory. The sense that the balance within the Cabinet may have altered and that the modernising camp within the Government has faltered is not one that the Prime Minister can let fester. Once again the sentiment sits on slim foundations. It is based on little more than a single, largely innocuous, interview with John Prescott in which some praise was offered for both John Maynard Keynes and the Chancellor.

Nevertheless, there is the more tangible fear that, as the economy slows and mid-term, apathy approaches. Mr Blair's resolve to press ahead with radical reforms in education and the welfare state might encounter enhanced resistance. The temptation to drop, to dilute or to defer these measures to an already somewhat cluttered second term may become overpowering. The most appealing aspect of new Labour, a willingness to entertain the idea that the proper role of the State is to do somewhat less rather more effectively, may be smothered by what has always been its least attractive trait, an obsession with its popularity as measured by poll ratings.

It would be faintly ludicrous to suggest that a Government with a majority of 180 in the House of Commons and huge public support still behind it needs anything as dramatic as a relaunch. But the Prime Minister's low profile over the past two weeks, though understandable, has allowed uncertainty to creep into Westmin-ster and Whitehall. If that ambiguity becomes drift and inertia. Mr Blair will have missed an important opportunity. This momentum cannot necessarily be recaptured at some convenient future moment. The Prime Minister needs to spend the next few weeks at home

PITY PAKISTAN

A wretched mess of intolerance, killings and corruption

The massacre of at least 16 Shia Pakistanis under a bridge on the road to his family at prayer in a mosque in the Puniah city of Multan is another grim example of the religious fanaticism that is destroying government and society in Pakistan. The Sunni gunmen sprayed worshippers with struggle with Mr Sharif. bullets as they were listening to a sermon. This was a bruial response to the special anti-terrorism court, set up only two weeks ing parliamentary majority. He has won ago, which has already sentenced to death 14 Sunni and Shia extremists for sectarian murders. Religious vendettas between the Sunni majority and the Shia Muslims who form a fifth of the population have elaimed hundreds of lives in the past two years. But they are only one aspect of a deadly combination of lawlessness, intimidation, assassinations and corruption that has already brought this unhappy country close to political and economic collapse

Pakistanis will look in vain to their Government to end these horrors. In addition to the sectarian conflict that affects most Muslim countries, Pakistan also suffers from the debilitating violence in Karachi between the Muttahida Quarni Movement [MQM], the organisation representing Muslims who immigrated from India after partition, and the indigenous population. The violence, which has killed most commercial initiative in this former centre of trade, is now spilling beyond city and into all local politics. It finds an echo in the clashes to the north, where heavily armed refugees from the war in Afghanistan have exacerbated tribal divisions.

Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, has promised to crack down on terrorism. But he shows neither the will nor capacity to do so. He himself has only just escaped assassination, when a bomb exploded

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farm. As usual, the finger has been pointed at Indian intelligence agents; more likely perpetrators are MQM militants and political enemies who are locked in a bitter

In many ways the Prime Minister is in an enviable position. He has an overwhelmthe power struggle with the former President and with Pakistan's judiciary, emerging with a stronger hand than any previous democratically elected leader. The political opposition is discredited by the allegations of corruption levelled at Benazir Bhutto, her family and her cronies. But he has thrown away his advantage. He has done little to liberalise the economy, reform the country's political institutions or crack down on corruption. He has shown himself to be as venal and opportunist as most politicians. And he appears greedy for absolute power with little idea of how to use it for Pakistan's advantage.

There is an illusion in Pakistan that because it has exploded a nuclear bomb, it commands world respect. Pakistanis believe that they will be bailed out of their largely self-made economic mess because of their strategic and political importance. In fact, the resort to nuclear testing, just like Mr Sharif's embrace of an ever more rigid Islamicisation, is a populist attempt to hide the failings of his rule. Both may bring short-lived popularity. But the costs - a cust in foreign aid and growing religious intolerance - are weighing heavily on the population. The weekend upsurge of violence should be a warning to the lackfustre Government to tackle the

country's enormous underlying problems.

THE PRE-MILLENNIUM BUG

Flu is best treated at home not in hospital

If life were a game of Monopoly, there deserving cases, surgeries and emergency Chance card, giving strict instructions: "You have flu. Move directly to bed. Do not pass Go. Do not go to hospital. Miss three goes." Sadly, many people who have been struck down by the current flu virus still need to be given such simple advice. Feverish, coughing and spluttering, they have made their way to doctors surgeries or hospitals - some by ambulance where they languish for hours, passing their illness on, only to be told that there is no magical cure. For most people, the best cure is simple: take a hot, sweet drink, find a good book or programme and go to bed.

Although the earliest description of an influenza epidemic was recorded in 1610, the term was first widely used in 1743 to describe what the London Magazine called 'a contagious distemper" raging in Italy. Lord Chesterfield told his son that influenza is "a little fever, of which scarpely inyone dies; and it generally goes off with a little looseness". A century and a half ater, an estimated 20 million died in the .918 outbreak of Spanish influenza, which anks with the Black Death as the one of he severest outbreaks of diseases ever. l'oday, however, thanks in part to vaccinaions, Lord Chesterfield's advice holds. Those most at risk are infants and the lderly, especially if they are suffering from ronchitis, pneurmonia or other debilitatng disorders. If they are swamped by less unlike Sydney flu - will not disappear.

would be a space marked Bed, and a wards might well be unable to provide this yulnerable group with the care and attention they need.

Despite the best efforts of hypochondriacs, the current outbreak of H3N2 Sydney flu is nowhere near epidemic proportions. To be classified an "epidemic", more than 400 cases of flu per 100,000 people need to he recorded a week - five times the current level of those who have caught this pre-millennium bug. But some hospitals are already straining to cope, even though the Government is spending an extra £250 million to help to tide the NHS through any winter crisis. Patients are being treated in ambulances and serious cases shipped across the country in search of a bed. Yet lack of beds disguises the real problem. Even if there were more beds, there would not be the nurses needed to look after those

resting in them. Like teaching, nursing is a profession suffering from a retainment and recruitment crisis. The exodus of qualified nurses. many of whom are being lured into the private sector by higher salaries, is putting an increasing number of hospitals particularly their intensive care units under immense strain. There are, overall, 8,000 nursing vacancies and, for the first time, spaces on nurses' training courses. Until the image and pay structure of nursing is overhauled this problem -

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Brussels posts

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, Well before the end of this year the Government will need to decide who should be the two next British members of the European Commission. The assumption in Brussels is that Neil Kinnock will remain for a well mented second term and that Sir Leon Brittan, after 11 years, will step

The successor to Sir Leon could normally have been expected to be a Conservative. But the policy towards Europe recently adopted by the Conservative Party is to oppose not only British membership of the single currency for at least the next eight years but any of the further economic and political integration which will inexorably follow the euro.

Thus to send a Conservative as a European Commissioner would be tantamount to selecting a member of a league of atheists to fill the vacancy for a hishop.

Surely the sensible solution would be to appoint a leading member of the party which has for many years supported European integration. Either Paddy Ashdown or Menzies Campbell has the ability and the knowledge of European questions to make a firstclass commissioner.

Yours faithfully, ROY DENMAN (Director-General for External Affairs, EEC Commission, 1977-82), 26 St Luke's Street, SW3 3RP. January 3.

Launch of the euro

From Mr Stan Snowdon

Sir, The negative views expressed about the euro by Sir John Craven and others (letter, January i) are understandable, but I am surprised to note that the Executive Director of the Federation of Small Businesses is among the signatories. Multinational trading conglomerates will benefit least from joining the euro. The real beneficiaries, in my view, will be small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

If we entered euroland our SMEs would enjoy access to longer-term finance at lower interest rates, as do our European competitors. This would help to lower overheads, increase competitiveness and extend the survival rate of SMEs. At present the survival rate is three years for 53 per cent of SMEs in the North West region.

Your correspondents also point out that we have the fifth largest trading economy in the world. However, and despite the fact that we also have the lowest rates of corporation tax, our living standards are among the lowest

What is right for Europe will be good for Britain too.

Yours faithfully, STAN SNOWDON (Managing Director, Staffordshire Giftware Ltd), 84 Belgrave Avenue. Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1HT. January 2.

From Mr Bill Cash, MP for Stone (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article of January 2, "A German Europe", states that Ger-many has now abandoned her previous "conciliatory EU posture".

It always was a posture, as I indicated in my pamphlet, British and German National Interests, pub-lished by the European Foundation last September.

The single currency and EMU came about through the Maastricht treaty, which I warned John Major, at the time, would create an undemo-cratic and German Europe. He and his Cabinet allowed EMU to go ahead. In a protocol to the treaty EMU is expressed as "irrevocable". So too, therefore, is political union, for the two are inseparable.

It falls, as ever, to the British people to redeem this disastrous situation by a "no" vote in the referendum.

Yours faithfully. BILL CASH (Chairman), The European Foundation, 61 Pall Mall, SWIY 5HZ. January 3.

From Dr Philip E. Roe

Sir, Why is the euro the size that it is? It is too large to function as the only unit since many things can be bought for less. But if it is divided into 100 cents the cent is too small and will not buy anything. The ideal size of a monetary unit is surely the smallest amount anyone would bother with about 2n.

The inventors of that other inconvenient continental unit, the metre, just too long for a stride, based it on the circumference of the Earth. Does anything in nature correspond to 70p? Yours etc.

PHILIP ROE. 157 Verulam Road. St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 4DW. philip.e.roe@btinternet.com

From Mr John Gibbs

Sir. "Euroland" is English (report, January 49? Well, well. How did they tell? There was I thinking it was German.

Yours faithfully, JOHN GIBBS. 14 Queen Street, Maesteg CF34 9YN. January 4.

UK candidates for The spirit of optimism in our 'moral wasteland'

From Mr Charles T. Ross

Sir. David Selbourne cheers up the new year by rattling our consciences at the widespread cynicism which he thinks is causing our civilisation to descend into the abyss (article extract, "Our moral wasteland", Decem-

No one can be complacent about the failures in our society which he lists, but Jeremiahs all seem to compare today's inadequacies with some mythical lost paradise of vesteryear. Take his first point about the way some old people are regarded as commodities by private care homes; this compares, not so much with a past in which every elderly couple lived in the bosom of a caring, loving, extended family, but with the terror, even in living memory, of the workhouse.

He cites the number of arson attacks on schools. Fifty years ago some 20 per cent of our children received a reasonable education now, perhaps 70 per cent do. Of course, this is not good enough, but we should ask ourselves what sort of experience encourages youngsters to try and burn down their schools?

The big shock horror is "the moral quagmire" of our divorce rate. Perhaps this level of failure should encourage us to reflect on the culture of how people are encouraged to select their partners in the first place. What might these statistics indicate about the experience of couples who for centuries were forced to live with their mistakes? Selbourne pines for the nuclear family — yet look at the weight of evidence of the stress this can cause.

In the extract you have published Selbourne offers no solutions to what he calls "moral evasion". But there is hope. In this century we have achieved universal suffrage - so we begin to influence how we are governed; deference to a static hereditary system is on the wane. We have

created the welfare state. The National Health Service may have its faults but it is a beacon of civilisation. More than half the population have jobs that give them genuine satisfaction and the percentage rises annually.

Of course there are problems, there always will be, and there is much to be done, but we go into the new millennium better fed, in better health, better clothed and housed, less superstitious and better educated to enjoy our knowledge, art and culture. We may not do it in the name of religion, but our community is in-creasingly tolerant, generous and

compassionate. Yours sincerely CHARLES T. ROSS, Mulberry House, 8 Mount Road. Lansdown, Bath BAJ 5PW.

From Mrs Mary C. Smith

January I.

Sir, David Selbourne has given us all a salutary warning. We have switched off the engine and are freewheeling into what is fast becoming an amoral society. What else do we expect when the Christian religion has largely been thrown out of schools and the vast majority of homes?

The Christian Church has become apologetic concerning its belief, and is, in some areas of life, trying to dispense with morality altogether, blurring the divide between right and

Yours sincerely, MARY C. SMITH, 54 Eastern Road, N2 9LA. December 31.

From Mr P. J. Riddell

Sir, While what David Selbourne writes is undeniable, I found myself wishing that he might put his formidable skills towards encouraging people. By assembling all that is wrong, we can easily depress ourselves. But the picture should be balanced by cataloguing some of the multitude of generous and noble actions which we also encounter.

It is difficult to assess the current state of the struggle between good and evil in a particular people — one's judgment is so affected by one's own frame of mind at the time. Mr Selbourne's article stands in contrast to the spirit of this Christmas season, by marking which, we affirm our belief that however dark things may seem, there is hope — evil will not triumph. A prophet, while warning of dangers ahead, has a duty to reflect that hope, and seek to inspire people

Yours sincerely, 12a Norham Road, Oxford OX2 6SF. December 31.

From Mrs E. Wheeler

Sir, "Our moral wasteland" certainly made for thought-provoking reading. It did not surprise me that most of the quotes used by David Selbourne came from The Guardian. I was a devoted reader of that paper for many years until I could no longer bear the dark. debilitating cynicism which began to fill its pages. On every moral issue it took the so-called "forward-looking" trendy view.

But where did the second largest source of quotes come from? From The Times. Does this give you food for thought? You cannot condemn moral cynicism and social confusion and then give inches of column space to those who perpetrate them. Where will you make your stand?

Yours faithfully, E. WHEELER, 5 Goodwood Close, Waterlooville, Hampshire PO8 8BG. 100531-2573@compuserve.com December 30.

Hopes for model housing dashed

From Mr G. M. Wedd

Sir, As one of the civil servants on whom, among others, Mr Michael Moore (letter, December 30) heaps the responsibility for the Park Hill estate in Sheffield, may I express a view contrary to his, and your other correspondents?

Park Hill is highly ingenious. The way the flats wrap around the walkways and the ribbon of building is laid out so that every walkway but one reaches ground level somewhere, represents good, creative architecture.

Three things went wrong with Park Hill, as with almost all other public housing of that period. Standards were low. Ceiling heights were kept to the minimum thought necessary for health. Soundproofing was very poor; no one in the 1950s foresaw that every room in every flat would contain a TV or ghetto-blaster. Parking provision was derisory; it was thought that those who could afford a car should get out of heavily subsidised accommodation.

Of necessity, the flats were allo-cated to people for whom they were not suitable, rather than the young professionals or retired couples; but these latter were not at the top of the waiting list. A family with three or four young children — who will all too soon turn into three or four teenagers, chafing at the constraints of such a lifestyle -- would be far better off in a semi or terrace house.

However, the Park district, which had been demolished, was heavily populated and it was everyone's understandable wish that as many of the former residents as possible should be rehoused where they had lived (Incidentally, anyone who criticises Park Hill should have some knowledge of what it replaced.)

this one was woefully undermaintained. In the 1950s we did not recognise that every block of flats in Paris, for example, had a concierge to every eight or nine dwellings, a level of management, cleaning and - yes - supervision many times better than

gardeners wore hard hats - apparently to protect them from things thrown from upper floors, but ineffect tive against hot chip fat.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE WEDD (Under-Secretary, Department of the Environment, 1976-90), The Lodge, Church Hill, Littleton, Somerset BS39 6HG.

Woodland burials

From the Director of The Natural Death Centre

Sir, Your leading article, "The dominions of death" (December 29), praises the Oakfield woodland burial ground at Wrabness in Essex and calls for more such sites. The first woodland burial ground in the UK was opened in Carlisle in 1993. Today there are 84 such grounds. It is the fastest growing environmental move-ment in the UK.

Our charity runs an association to link these sites and gives awards to the best. The most recent winner was the Greenhaven farm near Rugby. which charges a mere £490 for grave, tree, biodegradable coffin and collection of the body, even from as far away as London.

This brings environmentally friendly burial within the reach of those who might otherwise have chosen the more polluting option of cremation, with its often drab and rushed service.

Yours faithfully. JOSEFINE SPEYER, Director, The Natural Death Centre. 20 Heber Road, NW2 6AA. January I.

Shakespeare honoured

From Mr Michael Heilman

Sir, It was wonderful to read the significant space The Times devoted to Shakespeare today.

The educational system in most of the US has trivialised and reduced his work to tedium. He has been held hostage by the elite. I'm glad to see him honoured in the land of his birth.

Yours etc. MICHAEL HEILMAN, 11546 Hickory Cluster. Reston. VA 20190-3601. bdhmfh@erois.com January 2

In common with all such estates,

on an English estate.

Visiting Park Hill two years after it was first occupied. I noticed that the

The story of public sector housing in Britain from the 1930s onwards is that of our greatest single programme of public investment, creating an estate which housed, at its largest, a third of our people. Park Hill is, in many ways, a microcosm of that

January I.

Pain in the toe

From Dr Andrew Bamji

Sir, I have suggested for years that the common belief that gout is due to an excess of port, among other wines (article, "Just like toothache in the big toe", Weekend, December 26), is due to the loss, probably last century, of two letters from the name of its precipitant. It is porter, not port.

Porter, of course, is beer, so Adam Edwards's switch to this beverage will undoubtedly make his gout worse. We now know that the yeasts in beer, which are broken down to uric acid, are the cause. Other foods rich in purines, red meat and yeast extract among them, are villains also. In any event, if he was taking

enough allopurinol he should not get gout at all. So I would advise eschewing beer, yeast extract and fillet steak, and stick to the wee dram now and again.

Yours spiritedly, ANDREW BAMJI (Consultant rheumatologist). Greylands, 58 Goddington Lane, Orpington, Kent BR6 9DS. andrew_bamji@compuserve.com December 28.

That sinking feeling

From Mr Frederick King

Sir, I have an ambition (not yet realised) to tip out water from a washingup bowl, and to find it empty. There is always a teaspoon.

Yours faithfully, E. F. KING, The Barn, Chapel Allerton, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2PH.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Balliol protest

From Professor Emeritus W. L. Gage Sir, Your Balliol correspondent Kate Atkinson (letter, December 30) complains, not of the principle of some student contribution, but of the timing of the payment.

The danger of the deferred graduate tax which she proposes is that students may fail to respect the assets or the cost-control procedures of their university. They may not see themselves as stakeholders.

Yours faithfully, BILL GAGE, 35 St Lawrence Drive, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 2RW. December 30.

Golden years

From Mr John Pullan

Sir. As I am retired and on the doorstep of drawing my old-age pension I protest at the prospect of being called a "senior" (letters. December 28 and 31).

If you are young, you are young. If you are middle-aged, you are middleaged. If you are old, no euphemism can alter the fact. How you feel is quite different.

Yours faithfully, JOHN PULLÁN, 32 Twatling Road, Barnt Green, Birmingham B45 8HT. ipullan99@aol.com

The strain of the train

From Dr J. R. C. West

Sir, Mr M. R. K. Holden (letter. December 30) asks for a new slogan for British Rail in the light of "the appalling conditions many customers now endure".

After two very substandard trips to

Cornwall by Great Western in August wrote to the Customer Relations Department, suggesting the change of one letter only, ie, "Let the train make the strain". I received a reply and compensa-

tion, but no thanks for my suggestion. Yours faithfully, JOHN WEST, 9 Ullswater Road, Barnes, SWI3 9PL.

From Mr Jack Smith

December 30.

Sir, Those of us who had a hand in the campaign in which "Let the train take the strain" was a major and very effective component are still delighted when it is resuscitated from time to

time, after so many years.

As a professional railwayman of over 62 years' experience, may ! suggest that its successor for 1999 should be: "Come back, British Railways, all is forgiven."

Yours faithfully. JACK SMITH, Hohturli, Hermitage Road, Cold Ash, Newbury RG18 9JG. January 1.

From Mr Paul Phillips Sir, How about 'Here today, still here

Yours faithfully, P. J. PHILLIPS. 16 Burns Green. Benington, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG2 7DA. pjphil@hampers.globalnet.co.uk January 2

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will open the first session of the new Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh on Thursday, July 1.

Sir David **Woodbine Parish**

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir David Woodbine Parish. CBE, will be held at St Olave's, Hari Street, London EC3, on Tuesday, January 19, 1999, at

Sir William Mather

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir William Loris Mather will be held at St Peter's, Prestbury. Cheshire, on Wednesday, January 20, at noon. Donations desired to Macclestield District General Hospital or the Army

Colonel Roderick Hill

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Colonel Roderick Hill, late Coldstream Guards and formerly Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent, will be held at St Mary's Parish Church. Chepstow, Monmouthshire, on Thursday, Rebruary 11, 1999, at 11.30am. Would those wishing to attend please write for tickets to Mr G.C. Francis, 17 Welsh Street. Chepstow, NP6 5YH, before January 25. All are most welcome.

Mr Quentin Crewe A memorial service for Mr Quen-tin Crewe will be held at St George's, Hanover Square, London WI, on Thursday, February IS, at noon.

Dinner

Mrs Lavinia Cohn-Sherbok was the speaker at a talk dinner of the Athenaeum held last night at Pall Mall. The Very Rev David Edards was in the chair.

Marriage

and Mrs J. Griffiths The marriage took place on Christmas Eve, at Runaway Bay, and Mrs June Griffiths.

Premium Bonds

The El million prize in the Premium Bond draw for January was won with 74BW 260906. The winner lives in Kent and has a bond holding of £19,991.

Birthdays today

The King of Spain celebrates his 61st birthday today. The Grand Duke of Luxembourg celebrates his 78th birthday today. Mr Alfred Brendel, KBE, concert pianist, 68; Mr Tom Burke, envi-ronmentalist, 52; the Earl of Dudley, 79; Sir Alan Hume, civil servant, 36; Miss Diane Keaton, actress, 53; Lord Kingsdown, KG, 72; Miss Jan Leeming, broadcaster, 57; Mr Maurizio Pollini, pianist, 57; Sir Norman Price, former chairman, Board of Inland Revechairman, Board of Inland Reve-nuc, 84; Major-General H. Quin-lan, 93; General Sir Michael Rose, 59; General Sir John Stibbon, 64; the Hon Mrs Alison Wright, former director-general, British Invisibles, 54; Lord Wynford, 82.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Burke, genealogist and founder of Burke's Peerage, 1787; King Camp Gillette, inventor of the safety razor, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, 1855; Konrad Adenausalet, Let Chappeller of the Ederal er, 1st Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany 1949-63, Cologne, 1876; Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan 1971-77, Larkana, India, 1928.

DEATHS: Edward the Confessor, King of England reigned 1042-66, London, 1066: Joseph Gillot, pio-neer of the steel pen, Birmingham, 1873; Sir Ernest Snackleton, explorer, South Georgia. Antarctica, 1922; Calvin Coolidge, 30th American President 1923-29, Northamp ton, Massachusetts, 1933; Amy Johnson, aviator, on a flight across the Thames Estuary, 1941; Sonny Liston, boxer, Las Vegas, 1971.

One-day cricket was born when England played Australia at Melbourne because the Test match previous day's rain, 1971.

Hunting for a relic stolen from Cromwell's hearse

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

ON THE 400th anniversary of Oliver Cromwell's birth, the Museum of London is searching for the satin coat of arms that adorned the bearse at his funeral in 1658 and may have been stolen by a Westminster schoolboy who vanished with it into the crowd. An account from the 1790s

suggests that it is in a private collection but tracking it down has so far proved impossible. Hazel Forsyth. the museum's curator of postmedieval collections, said: "It is astonishing that any object from Oliver Cromwell's funeral has survived the vandalism and destruction of the Restoration and vicissitudes of the last 400 years. But two fragile textiles have survived, one in the Museum of London's collection: the other in private hands, present whereabouts unknown. Both were apparently taken from the hearse." Cromwell died from a ma-

iarial infection of the spleen on September 3, 1658. His funeral was particularly lavish, costing up to £60,000, according to some estimates. at a time when the average daily wage was less than a shilling (5p). More than 2,000 escutcheons, shields bearing coats-of-arms in satin, tallity (a type of woven silk) and buckrum (a cotton-based fabric), were among objects that adorned the hearse and rooms at Somerset House where he lay in state for several weeks. But only two escritcheons are believed to have survived: at the Restoration in 1661, the hearse was destroyed and Cromwell's body was exhumed, the head

severed and the body cast

into a pit under the gallows. The Museum of London's taffity escutcheon, acquired in 1914, bears this inscription: "Oliver Cromwell's scutcheon that was taken from his Hearse ye 23rd Nov. 1658"."

Miss Forsyth said: "Until recently, it was thought that the museum's escutcheon had been taken from the hearse by a Westminster School boy. Robert Uvedale. The 16-yearold, in an act of bravado. darted through the legs of the guard and snatched the escutcheon from the bier, disappearing into the crowd before anyone could stop him. In due course, the escutcheon became a family heirloom, and was eventually framed. At some point a paper label with Latin inscription was fixed to the back, describing the theft. and continuing with a vituperative account of Cromwell's life and character."

However, she explained, close reading suggests that the "Uvedale" escutcheon is different from the museum's and that the boy's souvenir has yet to be traced.

The museum will be displaying its escutcheon in Cromwell: Warts and All. which will run from Friday this week to February 28, along with Cromwell memorabilia that make up the largest collection in the country: items will include a waistcoat reputedly worn by Charles I on the scaffold and two death masks. Much of it has never been seen before. The exhibition is among a series of special events which will commemorate the 400th anniversary of Cromwell's birth on April 25, 1599.



Cromwell's escutcheon: taken from his hearse



JAMES - Suran, on 1st January 1999, pescafully aged 85. Dearly beloved

Sons, Highlands Roed,
Lestherhead KT22 RND.
LEVI- On 4th January 1999,
Alfred Jonathan (Jon),
MD. F.R.C.P., peachully
at home after a long fight
against pancreatic cames,
borne with satespitonal
courage and dignity, and
surrounded by his beloved
and loving wile Mary and
children David, Sophie,
Carls and Rachel, Funeral
service at The West
London Synagogue, Upper
Berkeley Street, London
Wi at 1.30 pm on
Wednesday 6th Jenuary,
followed by Interment at
approximately 3pm at
Hoop Lane Jewish
Cametery, Goldens Green,
London NW11 Prayers at
home at 5pm that evening.
At Jon's request there will
be no memorial service. No
flowery pieses, but
donations may be sent to
Dr David Cumningham's
Research Fund, Royal
Marsden Hospital, Downs
Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2
STT.
LEYMN - Deborah (Debby) on

Marraden Hospital, Downs Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 SPT.

LEARN - Deborah (Debby) on December Sist, aged 68, suddenly in hospital, devoted wife of the late Dick Lewin, very match loved mother of Richard and Surah and mother of Richard and Surah and mother of Liz, Funeral on Priday, Jamusry 8th, at 8t, Margarets Church, Cousley, Wilts, at 2,00pm. Family flowers only, please, but donations to the National Categories Association may be sent to W. Adism. & Son. 68 Locks Hill.
Frome, Somerset, EA11 INH (01373 452100).

ILLER - On New Years Day in his 80th Year, Kenneth Wolstenholms, darling husband of Joan for By years, beloyed father of James, Alexander, William and Frances. Funeral St. Lawrence Church, Lechlade, Glos on 11th James, Tallyon, followed by private Cremation. Donations, if wished, to Cystic Pibrosis or British Heart. Foundation of Baker & Sons, 5 Park Ecad, Paringdon, Oxon. SN7

Paringdon, Oxen. SN7

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.M. Benton and Miss A.H. Prain The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of the late Dr. Denis Benton and of Mrs Mary Allen, of Gloucester, and Alison, daughter of Kenneth and Rosalind Prain, of Alford, Aberdeenshire.

Mr A.J.A. Crasmer and Mevrouw J. van Zadelhoff and Mevrouw J. van Zadelhoff
The engagement is announced
between Alistair John Abery,
younger son of the Rev J.A. and
Mrs Cranmer, of Crawley,
Hampshire, and Joanneke, younger
daughter of De Heer and
Mevrouw E.J.H. van ZadelhoffSchollen of Bussum The Scholten, of Bussum, The Netherlands.

Mr G.W.M. Crewdson and Miss F.M. Numericy am runs r.w. reaments.
The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Mr and the Han Mrs Perceptine Crewdson, of Otley. Suffolk, and Frances, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Numeley, of Pewsey.
Witshire.

Mr S.D. Hall and Miss E. Schwarz The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr Derek Hall, of Barnes, London, and Mrs Jennifer Hall, of Chiswick, London, and Emma younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Benno Schwarz, of Childe Okeford, Dorset.

Mr M.J.R. Harris and Miss R.G. Branton The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs J.K.M. Harris, of Tadworth, Surrey, and Emma, daughter of Dr and Mrs FJ. Brunton, of Dihden Purlieu, Hampshire.

Mr A.T. Hodgson and Miss Y. Osada The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs P.E. Hodgson, of Peterborough, and Yuko, only daughter of Mr Y. Osada, of Token, and Mrs W. Kaga of

Tokyo, and Mrs H. Kaga, of Tochigi, Japan. Mr R. Söderland and Miss H. Norman The engagement is announced resident of Vienna, and Heather

Norman, of London.

Mr D.M. Kay and Miss C.Y. Joses The engagement is announced between Dominic, second son of Sir Maurice and Lady Kay, of Nantwich. Cheshire, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs. David Henry Jones, of Deganwy, Conwy. Mr J.Q. de M. Kellock

and Miss K.A. Davidsen The engagement is announced between James Ofiver, son of Mr Routhill Abbey, Tishury, Wiltshire, and Karen Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Svein Davidsen, of Kingswood, Surrey. Lieutenant Q.S. Matthews, RN.

and Dr.J.F. Mason
The engagement is announced
between Quentin, younger sun of
Dr and Mrs Trevor Mannews, of Overnown, near Kirkby Lonsdale, Lancashire, and Judith, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Mason, of Lowgill, Lancashire. Mr J.R. Pugh and Mile F.J.M. Grostans

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Colonel Oliver Pugh, of East Horsley, Surrey, and of the late Mrs Ann Pugh, and Prederique, only daughter of M and Mme Pierre Groshans, of Tarascon-sur-Rhone, France. Mr T.G.J. Shers

and MISS C.A. VIENERS
The engagement is announced between Torn, son of Mr and Mrs Jack. Sherston, of Warehome.
Kent, and Charlotte, daugher of Mr Douglas Villiers, of Chelsea, London, and Mrs Lena Proudlock, of Lenatherston Characteristics. of Leighterton, Cloucestershire. Mr R.S. Taylor and Miss A.C.L. Alder

The engagement is announced between Russell, elder son of Mr and Mrs Sam Taylor, of Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, and Annabel daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Alder, of Beverley, East Yorkshire. Mr M.C.K. Watson

and Miss D.J.G. de Satgé The engagement is amnounced between Michael Charles Knox. and Mrs T.A.K. Watson, of Broadchalke. Wiltshire, and Deborah Jane Geraldine, younger daughter of the late Rev and Mrs John de

PERSONAL

BIRTHS

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love-endures for ever. Psalm endures ro 118.1 (NIV)

BIRTHS

Temza, a sou, Kamai, a prother for Kamila. ISTER PARKER - On December at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington to Charlotte and William, a son, Charles Hartley, a brother for Roderick.

for Roderick.

BASR - On December 29th at The Portland Hospital to Heather and Stuart, a son, Harrison Michael, a brother for Jordan.

BLAKE - On 22nd December SLAKE - On Zand December 1998, to Daniel and Joanna (née Reynolds), a daughter Natalie Darcey. SRIGGS - On December 31st 1998 to Rosey and Sandy, twins, a brother and stater for Alice and Tota.

107 Airce and 10m.
CAMPRELL - On December
29th at The Portland
Hospital to Julia and Noel,
a daughter, Caroline
Sarah, a sister for

January 1999, to Catherin (née Edgecliffe-Johnson) and James, a daughter, Eleanor Rosemary. DAME: On 23rd December to Charlotte (née Collox) end James, a son, John James Colfox, a brother

Jamea Colfox, a brother for Olivia, Hettie and Posy.
DEON SASTH - On December 29th at The Portland Hospital, to Sophie (nee Patthson) and Simon, a daughter, Isabella Grace, a sister to Emits.

Emilia. DOWNES - On December 31st 1998, to Clare (nee Sheehan) and Tem, a daughter Eliza Jane, sister to Annabel.

to Annabel.

DRYSDALE - On December
10th to Mary (use
Nottidge) and Malcolm, a
son Calum Daniel FELDMAN - On December 23th at The Portland Hospital to Juliet (use Starr) and Jonathan, a son, Joshua Charlie.

JOSTUP Charlie. GEDEON - On December 29th at The Portland Hospital to Leila (nos Frechet) and Georges, a daughter, Natzaha, a sis for Tatiana.

MARRIS - On Friday 1st January 1999, to Biddy (noe Husk) and Alex, a so Angus Edward. FWIN - to Alexandra (nee Elstub) and Andrew on 14th December 1998, a daugher Georgians, sister for Isabel and Katherine.

Kajnarine.

JONES - On December 30th
at The Portland Hospital
to Maria (née Ellis) and
Nicholas, a son, George, a
brother for Maximilian. MACISAAC - On 29th (née Townsend) and David, a daughter, Isabella

Victoria.
McCHARI - On December
28th at The Portland
Hospital to Kuria and
Barry, twins Regan and
Kyle, sisters for Morgan
and Balley.
MC VARIATE COMMENT. MOLYNEUX-CHED - On 17th

MOLYNELICCHED: On 17th
November 1938, to
Marianne and Patrick, a
son, Alexander Thomas, a
brother for Josephine.
Ong - On Decamber 30th at
The Portland Hospital to
Heien and John, a son,
John Finier, a brother for
Leifa and Sophie.
PASTICK-MIEY - On
December 17th in
Counsettent to Lisa and
Nicholas, a son Edmund
Anthony, a brother for
Hugo.

DEATHS

BALLANTYNE - Dr. J. Rollo died at his home on 30th December 1998. Loving husband and desarest friend of Marlon, triplet brother of John and the late Jean. He will be seen lain, David and Celia and their mother Tym; and his grandchildren Emily and Alex and their mother Susie. Cremation at Kingadown Crematorium. REYNEERS - On December 30th at The Portland Hospital to Lorraine (née Codling) and Paul, a daughter, Madeleine, a sister for Alexandra and Georgia. SCHROEDER - On Decemb 38th at The Portland Hospital to Mary and Kingsdown Crematorius Swindon on December 8 at 12.30 pm. No flowers please. Donations to piesse. Donations to imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Philip Tomlims Ltd. Primeral Directors, Evenham. WR11 5AP Tel. 01386 785123.

BEDFORD - Felix Hogh

REDFORD - Felix Hogh
Wyst of Weston Patrick,
peacefully in the early
hours of Sist December
1998, aged \$2. Loved and
inving husband, father an
grandiather. Private
cremation. A Service of
Thanksgiving will be bein

155 Lawrence Church

Thanksgiving will be held at 54 Lawrence Church, Weston Patrick, on 13th January at 12 noon, Family (lowers only, Douations, it wished, to Friends of St. Lawrence, c/o Corner House, Weston Patrick, Besingstoke, RG25 2NX.
BEDFORD - Stanley Charles, of Bourse End, Euckinghanshire, on 26th December 1998. Funeral Service 12 mon on Tuesday 12th January at the Chilterns Cremstorium, Amerikam, Family flowers only, donations if desired to RNLI c/o G.Smith Funeral Directors, 4 The Green, Woohurn Green, Bucks, HP10 000, Tel: 01623 522366.

522566.
BOYCE - Seddenly on 31st
December 1998. Thomas,
beloved husband of Lucy
and father of Edward and
Doddy. Service of
Thanksgiving for family
and close friends to be
held at the Church of St.
James the Great, Full-hook
on Friday 8th Jamany at
2.00pm, followed by
private cremation. Family
Howard only please.

private cremetion. Family slowers only piesse. Donations, if desired, to The Backsinton Conservation and Educational Trust for the Countryside or Burford Hospital Comforts Fund. All enquiries to E. Taylor & Son, 21 Corbett Road.

Carterton, Oxon. Tel: 01993 842 421.

Hospital to Mary and Mark, a daughter, Margaret Elizabeth, a sister for Anna and John SCOTT - On December 31st at The Portland Hospital to Samenthe and Alexander, a daughter, Honor.

SMALL - On January 2nd at
The Portland Hospital to
Marion (née Brister) and
Tony, a daughter,
Elizabeth Sarah.

SYKES - On James 1st, 1999, in Selisbury, to Sammy and Henry, a son, Oliver John Coote. at The Portland Hospital to Rita (née Hadilosmon and Akis, a son, Luke, a brother for Alexander. WARSURTON - On December 29th at The Portland Hospital to Michelle (née Hail) and James, a daughter, Emm

DEATHS

DEATHS

ABSALOM - (née Allen)
Marjorie Julis. Aged 86.
Pescafully at home on
December 31st with her
family. Cremation at
Surrey & Sussex
Crematorium, followed by
Thanksgring Service at St.
George's Church.
Crowhurst. Surrey on
Seturday 9th January at 12
noon. Donations in lieu of
flowers to Heatherley
Cheshire Home.
Copthorne or Leegue of
Friends of Lestherhead
Hospital at the Church or
c/o Funeral Director. Alex
Jones. Eart Grinstead
Road, Lingfield, Surrey.
All Set Doris Norah of
Edghaston, Birmingham
died pescefully at home on
30th December 1998 aged
94 years. Beloved wife of
the late Frederick George
(Pat) and dearly loved
sunt, great sunt and great
sunt. Funeral at St
Augustina's Church.
Edghaston on Wednesday
13th January at 12:15 pm
followed by private
cremation. Donations if
deaired to Injured Jotkeys
Company Ltd. c/o Thos
Furber and Co Ltd, 122
Station Road, Harborne,
Birmingham B17 SLS.
ASHWOOD - James, OBE,
Pescefully on 2nd January

01993 842 421.
SOYD - Lealie, CBE, formerly Clerk of the
Court at the Old Builey,
peacefully in Bristed on
18th Decamber, His ashes
will be interred beneath
tha tree which he planted
in memory of Wendy at
Wraznii Manor,
Dorchester, Dorset at
January. Birmingham B17 SLS.
ASHWOOD - James, OSE, peacefully on 2nd James, 1999 at Truscott Manor Nursing Home, East Grinstead, aged 79. Formerly of the Diplematic Service and Department of Trade and Industry. Dearly loved impend of Ruth and beloved father of Merryl and the late Geoffray. Paperal at Turners Hill Prec Church (West Sussex on Monday 11th January at 11:35 am and afterwards at the Surrey and Sussex at the Surrey at the Jaguary, BRADFIELD - Roger Hugh died at home on 3rd January aged 65 years. Puneral Service will be held at Christ Church held at Christ Church Shamley Green, Surrey on Monday 11th January at 11. 30 followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired directly Marie Carle Cancer Care or Municians. at the Surrey and Star Crematorium, Family

SWIW 9LZ.

Funeral at St Andres

Benevolent Fund, Further details from Pimms Funeral Service 01483 274078. - Kenneth Edgar pescefully on 25th December aged 22. Beloved brother of Lorna. Funeral to be held at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruisin en 12th Isausary at 3 pm. No Rovers by request but donations if desired to Guide Dogs for the Blind, c/o WS Bond, 19 Bond Street, Esling W5 5AP. Tel 0181 567 0422. flowers only, but donations if desired to Scripture Gift Mission, 3 Ecclesions Street, London SWIW SLL.
ATHERTON - Viciny formarly
Church died pescefully
And January at Ripon
Community Hospital
Dearly beloved wile of
Devid and much laved mother of Nicholas, Katherine and Peter.

DARROLL - John Clement Joseph (Jack). Late of Liverpool and East Sheen, on 30th December 1938 in his Dind year, Funaria is St. Marry Church, Bury St. Edmunds Suffolk, Mondey 11th January, 12 at Newsholms Manor.
Calsworth. Family request donations instead of flowers to Dr T Perrin.
Reast Caner Research, with choques puysibe to St. James Hospital, Leeds.

CARMICHAEL - Betty, on 31st
December 1998, aged 83.
Beloved wife of the late Lt.
Col. H. R. Carmichael M.C.
and of the late Lt. Col.
P.A.E. Dumas. Mother of
Sarah, Hingh and Mark,
loving grandmother and
great-grandmother and
great-grandmother and
great-grandmother.
Cremation private. Services
of Thanksgiving for family
and friends at St. Saviours
Church, Brockenhurst, on
Thurnday 14th January at
2.30pm. No Howers, by her
request, but donations if
desired, to the Chief
Executive, King Edward
VII Hospital for Officers,
10 Besumont Street,
London WIN 2AA.

CLAPHAM - His Honous Brian Raiph, reured Chrouit Judge, on December 20th peacefully in hospital following a stroke, aged 85. Much loved husband of Margaret and futher of Andrew and Pages 11 Septice 2

and father of Andrew and Russell. Service of Thanhagiving at St. Lewrence Church for family and close friends. No flowers please. Donations in his memory if wished to Toubridge Test and Twenty (Touth) Club c/o Margaret Cispham, 10 Sounds Oak Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 OUB.

Panily flowers only please, but donations to National Deaf Children's Society, 16 Dufferin Street, London EC1 or Hearing Research Trust, 330–332 Grays Inn Road, London WC1.

Cremetorium at 4 pm on Monday 11th January, No Slowers please.

COOKE - Maureen Elizabeth.
On 1st January 1998,
peacefully at home after a
happy family Christmas
and following a long and
courageous fight. Beloved
wife of Peter, dearly loved
mother of Nicholes,
Caroline, Andrew and
Stephanie and devoted
grandmother of Robbe,
Malmie and Entity.
Funeral Service at \$t
Mary's Church, Old
Amersham on Monday Amerikam on Monday 11th January at 3.30pm Family flowers only please; donations, if desired to the South Backs Monday Racio Hospice, Amerikan Road, High Wycombe. Any enquiries to HC Grimstead Ltd. Chalfort St Pater. Tel 01753 891200.

d'AMERIAMENT. – Paul, after a long illness, died at home on Wednesday 30th December, much beloved husband of Lyn and brother of Christopher. Private Funeral

Private Funeral.

DEACON - Earen Olga Marie
much loved wife of John
and mother of Timothy,
Paul, Christopher and
Louise, peacafully on 31st
December at St Peter's
Hospital, Chestey.
Funeral 4.30 pm
Wednesday 6th January at
St Mary's Ostlands. Family
flowers only please.
DRAYCOTT - Anne on PAYCOTT - Anne on December 29th .pes

CLEFORD - Harbera Mary
(née Peel) on 27th
December at The Downs
House, Peterafield, after
Christmas with her family.
Wife of the inte Lt. Colonel
W.H. Clifford, mother of
Olivia Hell-Craggs.
Funeral at St. Laurence's
R.C. Church, Peterafield,
2.00pm Thursday 14th
January, followed by
burial at All Seints', Steep.
Family Rowers only

COLMAN — Beatrice Helen inte Roberts) on Decembe 3lst at West Middlesux Hospital following a stroke. Very much missed by husband, relatives and interestable friends. Cremation at Mortlake

after a short illness, sadly missed by husband Alan and children Terry, Steve,

and children letty, see Sost, Call and their children. Cremation in Bournemouth on Friday th January at 3.30pm. Family flowers only. doughous to Wessex Heartbeat Appeal at FW House F/D, Lynington, Hants.

COPRESSI- Maurice Frank
M.B.E. (Mily), B.A. Capt.
tratid int. Corps. Michannes
Tets" or "Rocky" died
peotafully in hospital on
December 31st 1998 aged 85
years. Modern Lenguage
Master at Great Taxmouth,
Bearborough and City of
London School. Beloved
husband of Norah (née
Kasch), Nil Atkins
(daughter) and son Peter,
son-in-law Robert and
daughter) and son Peter,
son-in-law Robert and
daughter-in-law Chris,
grandchildren William and
Susan Aritim and Surah and
Roger. Much loved by us all.
Private cremation, followed
by Thankagiving Service in
Brestingham Chunch on
Monday Rathary 11th at
2.30pm. Pamily Hower only
plaste, but dengations if
wished to the intelligence
Corps Benevolent Fund, may
be sent c/o Rackham's
Funeral Service, Stamby
Road, Diss, Norfolk.

Hants.

EVANS - (Nen) Hannah Mary
(nde Walters), aged 88,
peacafully at the Marie
Curie Hospies, Hampatead
on Monday 28th
December: Beloved wife of
operatic tenor Edgar
Evans; dear mother of
Huw, mother-in-law to
Nicola and grandmother
of Rebecca and Edward.
Fungral service to be held

of Rebeccs and Edward.
Funeral service to be held at Gelders Green
Cremstorium on
Wednesday 6th January at
2.45pm. Flowers, or
donations to the Marie
Curie Hospice c/o L J
Butler & Son Ltd, Kenton,
HA3 8DN, Tel: 0181 907
3163 / 4452

S163 / 4452
EWENS - Rric George
Ewens, Writer, Dramstist
and former BBC Radio
Script Editor, died
peacefully on Wednesday
afternoon, 23rd December
1998, at Bettle Hospital,
Reading, afters about
illness, Private cremation
on Tuesday 12th Ismary
followed by a service for
family and friends at St.
Mary's Church,
Whitchurch-on-Thames,
Ozon, near Panghourne at
1,00pm. For further
information call 0118 984
2409.

2409. PARMELL - John aged 72 died pescefully on 31st December. Husband of Alexandra, father of Clare, Urmis. Aiden, Jerome. Dominic and Ruth. Grandfather to 23 grandchaffare. Requiem Mass at Clifton Cathedral, Bristol on Tuesday January 12th at 12 noon. Bristol on Tuesday January 12th at 12 noon. No flowers, donations if desired to the Frances Taylor Heapics, St. Mary's Rospital, Upper Byron Place, Bristal, BSS 11U.

Pisher - Peacefully on December 28th 1996 in his Sird year Edward Henry Lindeasy, late R.A. Much loved by his family and irlands, Private cremation.

FletCHER - Air Chief

Marshal Sir Peter - on

January 2nd 1999, aged 82.

Much loved husband of

Loobel, father of Arms and

Elizabeth and grandfather

of Amanda and Lucy. All

enculties to Chalesa. enquiries to Cheises Funeral Directors, 0171 352 0008. FORD - Mirlam Margaret of Yarrombe, Devon, widow of Mortimer Noel Ford YD.DL on lst January 1999

ip her 93th year.
Remandration service at
Yerotenbe Church Devon
on January 18th 1999 at
2,30pm. GEE - Timothy Hugh cled at Charterhouse on Cintennes Evening, Father of Pippin, Harry and Hermione, Funeral at St. Hermions. Funeral at St. Ethelreds't, Ely Pisce, Landon EC1 at 11.00mm, on Jenstary 7th. Flowers or doustions for Macmillan Nurses to J.H. Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row. Loudon, SWIP 1JU. Tel: 0171 834 4524

GREEN - Suddenly at her home Bylands, Woking, Sylviz Green. Dearly lov wife, mother and grandmother, on 3rd January, Funeral at Woking Crematorium, 13th June 13th Jamus y. Funeral at Woking Cremstorium, Tuesday 12th January at 10 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Arthritis Care, Any enquiries to Cyril Lovegrove F/D 01463 773456.

773430.
GLARM - Violet Eleanor,
widow of Air Marshal Sir
George Gunn, on
December 31st, aged 89.
Vers, wuch lowed mother George and Henry and

GUNN - William George GUNN - William George
David ORE (David),
formerly of the BEC
Overseas Service died on
Christman night. Now with
his belowed Winlired.
Service at St Anne's, Kew
Green, Thuraday 7th
January 11.45 am.
GURINGS - Winlired
Margaret, widow of Major
Charles Gurling, of
London, WI. pescefully on
Christman morning after
severe illness. Funeral
Service on Wednesday 8th
January at St. George's,
Hanover Square, at

servere illness. Funeral
Service on Wednesday 8th
January at St. George's,
Hanover Equare, at
2.30pm. Flowers may be
sent to Leverton & Sons
Ltd., 212 Eversholt Street,
NWI.
HALE-On 21st December
1998, in a tragic road
accident, Paul Hale of
Nyabira, Zimbabwe.
Beloved husband of Sacha
Jane Hale (nde Secrett),
son of Warwick and Sus
and son-in-inw to Robert
and Jill Secrett.
HARRIS - Nigel Mayne
Wilfred, in his 90th year.
formerly of Shanghal and
Khartoun, died pascatully
on the evening of 2nd
January 1999, after a short
illness bravely borne.
Beloved husband of
Marren and dearvet isther
of Alan, Tesus, Suste and
David and a loving
grandfather. Memorial
service (no mourning
clothes please) at St.
Peter's Church,
Duntisbourne Abbots,
Ciranoster on Saturday
16th January at 12 noon.
Family flowers only.
Donations to Harnhill
Centre of Christian
Healing, Cirencester, Glos.
GIT SPK, if desired.
HEMBET - Patricks Winscone
(née Sullivan), beloved
wife of Myles Herbart,
mother of Myles Herbart,
mother of Thains and
Robin, pescefully in
Camberley, on December
30th. Cremation private. A
Service of Thanksgiving
for her life will be held at
St Michael's Church.

Cambarley, on Decamber 20th. Cremation private. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held at St Michael's Church, London Road, Camberley, at 12 aoon on Saturdey January 9th. No Bowen by request but donstlons, if desired, to St Michael's Church, c/o Camberley & District Funeral Directors, 337 Yorktown Read, Sandhurst, GU47 4QA (01276-33241).

HOLDSWORTH - Dom Philip David, most of Ampleforth on 31st December 1998. Requiem Mass Sth Jamusy 1999, (2 moss at Ampleforth Abbey. HOLLOWAY - Olive Georgina todo Cultinal mesorfully on (néo Collina) pescerully on 28th December at the Royal Maraden Hospital, Setton. A brave and lovely

Sciton. A heave and lovely lady, much leved and missed by David, Sharon and Miles, grandchildren, family and friends. Service at St Andrew's Church, Ozshoft, Surrey, ou Thursday 7th January at 11:45 am. Family Howers only please, if desired, donathous to Canceer Research Campaign, c/o January KT11 3AL. Tel:01353 862008.

HOWARD - Lt. Col. IT C
Howard M.C. of East
Pannard, Someret,
peacefully on 30th
Documber 1998 aged 79
years. A much loved
lather, grandfather and
great-grandfather.
Funeral Service at All
Saints Church, East
Pennard on Monday, 11th
January 1999 at 2.00 pm.
Family flowers only.
Enquiries and if desired
donations for Army
Benevolent Fund or All
Saints East Pennard IOVE - Colonel Stephen,
MRE. Suddenly on
Jamery 1st beloved
husband of Robin, much
loved father of Jeremy,
Jonathan and Tim and
loving grandfather of five.
Small family funeral at.
Slackswich January 16th;
Thanksgiving Service at Sk
Mary's Bricham, February
6th 2.00 pm. All sequiries
and any donations (If
desired) for Army

and any donarrow desired) for Army donnament Fund or one Saints East Pennard Church Beilding Trust c/o Forsey and Son, 28 High Street, Butleigh. Glastonbury, Someoust. Fund to R. C. Pillar & Sons, Dartmouth 01803 832121 532121.
MARSDEN - On December
Sist, Major Peter Slingsby
MC, MA, ex Rifls Brigade
and Highland Light
Infantry, first Principal of
Risebolme, Much loyed send 85. Dearly beloved widow of Kenneth Turner James and mother of Louise and Brian, and a treasured grandmother and great grandmother. Poetes and the warmest friend, Private family cremation. Service of Celebration on Friday 8th Jamusry 1999 at 11.30am at 8t. Mary's Church, Stoke Paberson, Cobham, followed by Junch at Woodlands Park Hotel. Donations if desired to be sent to St. Mary's Church of L. Hawkins & Sons, Highlands Road, Leatherhead KT22 8ND.

LEVI. - On 4th January 1999.

sussoume, such loved husband, father and grandiather. Privatu cremation followed by Service of Thanksgiving St Michael's Church, Hackthorn on Tuesday Juntary 12th - 2 Hackthorn on Treeday January 12th et 2 pm. Pamily flowers only, donations in lieu if desire for RABI and medical charities may be sent to CC Moore, Main Street, Hackthorn, Lincoln LN2 3PW.

Hackthern, Lincoln LN2
3PW.

3MXHEW - Theobald David, formerly of the College of Arms. Much loved and missed by all his family and friends. Private Funeral and Cremation, followed by a Requiem Mass at Blackfriara, Onford, on Saturday 23rd Jamary at 12 noon.

MORRESON - Peccefully on December 31st, 1988, Roma, aged 78 years, widow of Howard Edward greatfy missed by son Howard, daughter Geil and families.

MAPER - Grace Edythe

MAPER - Grace Edythe Murial (nose Young) aged 99, on 3rd January 1999, after a short Illness, desc 99, on 3rd January 1989, after a short illness, dearly loved wife of the late Brigadier Inck Nepter, devoted mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother Funeral, Drewneignton Parish Church, 2.30pm Thursday 7 January, No Bowers, donations if desired to Drewneignton PCC of S J Backwall, Brookdale, 32a, Brook Street, Tavistock.
NORTH - Patricia Mary (Itish) on January 1st,

NORTH - Patricis Mary
(Irish) on January 1st,
died parceivilly in har
sleep, at home. Funeral
Service on Thursday 14th
January at 12.15pm at
January at 12.15pm
January at 12.15

Suffolk IP12 1EE.
OFFORD - Colomei Eric ETR at home on Santary 1st.
1989, aged 89 years.
Funeral Service in the Chich of St. Lawrence,
Affpuddle on Thursdry January Th., noon Flowers or donations to ETR
Benevalent Fund, may be sent to Albert (Funeral Directors) Ltd., St.
Michaels Road, Wareham, Dorset BH20 4CU. Tel:
01929 552107.
PARSURS - EHzabeth Helen
(Batty), formerly of PARSONS - Elizabeth Helen (Batty), formerly of Lymington and Surfey, peacefully in her sleep at East Wittering on January let, in her Sind year. Much loved mother (2) and Gruny-the-Greet (5). Cremetion at Chichester Cremetorium 11.30 mm Tuesday 12th January, Family Howers only. Densitions if desired to British Driving Society C. Edward White and Co., 5 South Pallant, Chichester

To place death notices, acknowledgements

or notices please call 0171 680 6880

EPPER - Roland Neville, on 2nd January, peacefully at Resthaven, near Painswick, Gloucestershire, agad 88, years. Funeral Service at St. Mary's Church, Painswick on Friday 8th January at 12 noon 8th January at 12 noon 8th January at 12 noon 12 Enquiries to Phillip Ford. 2 Son Pennaral Directors & Son Primeral Directors

PRESTON - Maureen, Medical Practitioner, On. January 1st 1999, aged 93 years, peacefully at years, peacefully at Polebrooke Numing Homn. Widow of The Rev C. G. A. Preston; mother of Denise, Hugh and Plona. Funeral Service Friday, January 8th at 1.00pm in Cottenstock Parish Contratock Parists
Church, Family flowers
only, Enquiries to
Crowson's Funeral
Directors, Barnwell, Tel:
01832 272269.

BibSE - Saddenby on 30th December Alleon Hope age. 38 years. Beloved wide of Ketth and a lowing mother and gradeother. Funeral service at 8t Manye Church Leigh, Kest on Thursday 14th January at 12 noom. Fundly flowers only but dogstlops to Calcurate Househy of Ond-Rume Pensent, of Ond-Rume Pensent Services, tel 02732 353746.

SCOTT - Joyce Dorrell Scott, previously King née Parker of Newton Burgoland. Died at home on 3rd January 1999 agad 75 years. Funeral at St. Peter's Church on January 12th. Engelities to W.B. Bradford Funeral Directors. Tel: 01530 270330.

SHEPHERD - John died pescafully at Joseph Weld Hospics on December 28th. Service at the United Church, South Street, Derchester at 12:30 pm on Jamusy 11th. Family Howers only please but if desired donations may be made to Joseph Weld Hospics through Woods (Dorchester) Ltd. 01365 252866.

SHORT - Elizabeth Dorothy (Lizi, peacefully in London on Dectaber 27th. Widow of Squadron Leader Tony Short, leaves a daughter Amanda, a grandson. Thomas and many friends. Funeral at Mortisks Cremstartion on January Lith at Span. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Pembridge Pallitative Care Centre, St Charles' Hospital, Exmoor Street, Hospital, Exmoor Street, London W10 60Z.

Struct - Michael Arthur suddenly on December 15th aged 74. Much loved father of Pannetz and Islian and much loved friend of Plons. Funeral activics at 4 pm at Mertick Creantorium, Kew Meadow Path, Townmeed Road, Richmond. Inquirie WS Bond, 0151 743 4241.

SPURING - Barbara Mary, aged 88, died paccefully on December 29th in Abbay View Nursing Bonne, Shatborne, Funeral at Iwarne Minster on January 11th at 11.30am, Family Gowers only, donations if desired, to Crafam or Joseph Weid Hughion, c/o Emon Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4EZ.

STAPPARD - On December 29th at home, Chariton Smith, dear husband of Jane, father of Ghishams and grandfather of Maisle and Arthur. Funeral at St. John's Church, Planer, on 7th Jasmary at 1,00pm, followed by cremetion at Breakespears. Breakespeare Crematorium, Raislip at 1.45 pm. Enquiries to TA Ellement and Son, Pinner, 0181 866 6324. STEEDMAN - George.
Peacefully in Malton
Hospital with family
around him on News Years
Eve 1986 aged 82 years.
Hasband of Nan, father of
Mark, Iane, and John and
grandfather of Hester,
Adam (Sam) and Sarah.
Frances Service at \$8:

TEVERSOR: Katherine (née Marvicar) much loved wife of Jamie and mother of Laura, Peter and Guy, and beloved daughter of Marily and Mell, and sister

Immary; after a short
illness. Funeral on
Thursday 7th January at
2.30pm at St. Paul's
Church, Clephan. Friends
welcome. Donations to
"Katherine's Farenting
Project of Midland Bank.
117 Balham High Road.
London SW12 9AS. London SW12 9AS.
STELIAND - Norman of
Norwood Green,
Middlesex on January 2nd.
Beloved husband of
Rachel, devoted futher of
Philip, Gwenda, Howard
(deed.) and Catherine. A
loving grandfather.
Funeral Service at St
Maryk, Norwood Green at nary 2nd.

Funeral Service at St. Mary's, Norwood Green at 11 am on 8th Jamary.
STUART DOUGLAS - Rachel Mary Ingliby (nds. Bairmooy) meanly 78 years old, died peacefully at Petworth Cottage Nursing Home on 20th December. An oblate of Ampleforth and beloved wife of Jim. mother of the iste Mark and of Joenna Hall, and "Nimnin" to Thomas, Cathy and non triands.

and of Josana Hall, and
"Rimain" to Thomas, Cathy
and many friends.
Requiem at Patworth
Catholic Church at 11:00
am on Friday 8th January,
followed by burtal at
Duncton. Pamily Rowers
only, Donations if desired
to Petworth Cottage
Nursing Home or CAFOD
via Funeral Directors W
Bryder & Sons Tillington
Petworth, West Sussex
GU28 9AB Tek 01798
342174.

caworth, West Samer.
GU28 9AB Tal. 01798
342174.
STUTHELD - Helen Mary
(Bielen Lowry). On
December 31st 1998, at
Cromer Hospital, dearly
loved sister, annt, grand
aunt and great-grand
aunt and great-grand
aunt Annexal at St.
Martin's Church.
Overstrand, Norfolk, on
Thursday January 14th at
2.15pm. Family flowers
only please, donations if
desired for the Actors'
Church Union c/o For's
Funeral Services, 10
Canada Road, Cromer, A
Manorical Services will be
held in London at a date to
be announced.
Att-Peacchailt at the

be announced.

TAIT-Peacetuily at the
Borders General Hospital.
Meirose on December 23rd
1998 in her 88th year.
Marjorie, widow of Peter
Guthrie Tait, (Colonial
Service, Romys), a dearly
loved mother of 7,
grandmother of 10 and a
great grandmother.

SIR WILL

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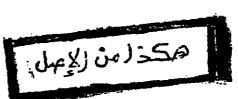
* 決議

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TEGETMEER - Petra Belau peccafully on lat lanuary 1999. Requiem at St Thomas More, Bradford-on-Avon, 9th January at 11.30 am.

TENCOM - Margaret (née Creswell) of Eastbourne. Susses: In peace on 2xrd December 1998, with of Marcel (decemed) and devoted mother to and much loved by som John and Simon. Service and Cremetion, 11, 15am Friday 8th January 1909, at Eastbourne Cremeterium. Enquiries Halme & Son, tel 01223 727801.

Total Peacefully on:
December 30th, 1998 in her
90th year Denine Rachel,
dear sister of Joan and the
late Jack. All enquiries so
Greene Funeral Services,
31 High Street, Eyenham,
Wilmy, Oxon ONE THE.
Tel: 91896 8806375



DAY JANUARY rriages

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ATTENDED TO THE STATE OF

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THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1999

OBITUARIES

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND

Charles John Robert Manners, 10th Duke of Rutland, CBE, died on January 3 aged 79. He was born on May 28, 1919.

harles, Duke of Rutland, had the unusual distinction of being the prototype of the hero in many a Barbara Cartland novel, thanks to his distinguished looks and circumstances. He lived at Belvoir Castle, a romantic castle with turrets and rooms full of armour and peacocks strutting the "lordly terraces". He owned the 13th-century Haddon Hall, so lovingly restored by his father. He was the head of the Manners family and a well known national figure, partly because he was married to Frances Sweeny, daughter of the controversial Margaret Duchess of Argyll, and partly because of his prolonged bat-tles with the National Coal

The Manners family came originally from Northumberland, where the Duke's aricestor, Sir Robert de Manners, was Governor of Norham Castle in the early 14th century. They became Barons de Ros, then Earls of Rutland, and finally Dukes. The 12th Lord Ros married Anne Plantagenet, sister of Edward IV, and it was to his son, Thomas,

Leicestershire. The 8th Eart of Rutland inherited Haddon Hall and land in Derbyshire from his grandmother, Dorothy Vernon, and in 1703 the 9th Earl was made Duke of Rutland for his loyalty to Queen Anne.

Charles was the eldest son of the 9th Duke and his wife Kathleen, a member of the extensive Tennant clan and a niece of Margot Asquith. He was christened Charles John Robert and educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, gaining his degree in 1940. He then served in the Grenadier Guards as a captain. Subsequently he was a county councillor for Leicestershire (and later chairman of the council), became a Deputy. Lieutenant in 1950, and was a JP. He was Master of the Belvoir Foxhounds from 1940, and Joint Master from 1947. He was area president of the East Midlands Conservatives. He succeeded his father as 10th Duke a month before his 21st birthday in 1940 and was

appointed CBE in 1962. In 1946 he married his first wife, Anne Cumming Bell, who subsequently made a name as a model, using the Lady Teresa, born in 1962, who title Anne Duchess of Rutland. attracted much media atten-They had one daughter, Chartion in her twenties (notably

a courtier and 1st Earl of 'lone, but divorced in 1956. His Rutland, that Henry VIII gave second wife was Frances Belvoir Castle, with land in Sweeny, whom he married in 1958. She was the daughter of the American millionaire Charles Sweeny and his wife Margaret, at the time of the marriage the third wife of the

Frances Sweeny had many suitors but; in the words of the Duchess of Argyll, the Duke was "the most persistent of them all". The union was much encouraged by Margaret Argyll, who invited him on a celebrated tour of the Middle East in 1958, on which the three were pursued mercilessly by the press. There was one humorous moment when a journalist was arrested by an Arab soldier, who inquired of the Duchess: "Shall we kill him now?"

Eventually, Frances over-

came her Roman Catholic

worries about marrying a divorced Protestant, 18 years her senior. The wedding was celebrated with a reception at Claridge's, a family piper leading the young couple into the ballroom. They had three sons, the present Marquess of Granby in 1959. Robert, who died of leukaemia in 1964 aged two, and Lord Edward Manners. There was also one daughter,



The Duke of Rutland at Belvoir, 1996

for being caught in a passion-ate embrace while driving on the M6 in August 1983). Dukes attract publicity in other ways, and Rutland was no exception. In 1939 he was

involved in a late-night collision with a telegraph pole (in a car containing the future Duke of Devonshire) when returning from a party in London. In 1953 he was fined

informality and efficiency. He

offered his colleagues loyalty

and a free rein, but he had no

patience with the ethos of the

long lunch or any conspicuous

display of wealth. Once when

the appointment of a finance

director was being finalised,

the candidate added almost as

an afterthought that he as-

sumed he would have a

company Porsche. Stuttaford, shocked, explained that he

himself drove a very elderly family car and Porsches were

not part of the company

image. The man insisted, and

the contract was torn up.

Stuttaford's own car shortly

afterwards burst into flames,

and he was fucky to escape

ton, Stuttaford became deputy

chairman of Brown Shipley

with the remit of arranging an

became chairman of Invesco

(Europe) and a member of the

board of Amvescap. He held

many other directorships in

the banking and insurance

world and was a member of

For many years he lectured at the City University; he was

the Takeover Panel.

After the sale of Framling-

with a scorching.

for speeding. He and both his wives suffered numerous robberies. A £5,000 painting was stolen in 1968, and there were numerous jewellery thefts: 57,000 worth stolen in London in 1948, an even more valuable haul taken from the Duchess's suitcase on a train in 1960 and a further substantial theft in London in December 1965. In 1976 four paintings and an oak carving were stolen from Haddon.

The Duke was forever buying and selling hotels in the Derbyshire area, a notable purchase being the Izaak Walton Hotel at Dovedale. He opened Belvoir Castle and Haddon to the public, and enjoyed friendly rivalry with his old Cambridge friend the Duke of Devonshire. Speaking at Chatsworth, he said: "While you are putting your half-crowns in my good friend the Duke of Devonshire's till, may I remind you that we also give good value for the same money at Haddon."

In 1967 he got into trouble for shooting during the foot and mouth epidemic, and in April 1982 he spoke out against a proposed ban on foxhunting, being proud to own the longest established pack of foxhounds in the country. In 1983 he was forced to sell the Rutland Psalters, which raised nearly £2 million

for a maintenance fund for interview to a tabloid newspa-Belvoir.

The Rutlands returned to the headlines over the years bewcause of the difficult relationship of the Duchess with her mother, Margaret Argyll-Their differences developed from the childhood illness of the heir, and in 1970 the Duchess of Argyll was banned from Belvoir after accusing her daughter of "posing as a devout Catholic". Thereafter early wounds proved too deep to heal, though the Duchess supported her mother in a nursing home in her last years.

The Duke was also wellknown for his extended battle with the National Coal Board. in 1977 he resisted its attempts to mine three fields in the choicest farming and hunting land of Leicestershire and later threatened to "lie down in front of the first bulldozer". He did not think that the potential subsidence and damage to the community was justified, given that the need for coal had greatly dimin-ished. He incurred hostility from the Labour MP Dennis Skinner, who pointed out that the Duke was chairman of the East Midlands Economic Planning Council, and said "As soon as there is the opportunity of finding some jobs on his land he tries to stop it".

The Duke then gave an

per, and was heard to mutter: "I suppose I shall have to pose in the nude." In 1980s there was an 83-day inquiry, and four years later only one pit was mined, at Asfordby.

A couple of years ago the Duke had a comical disagreement with the Alliance & Leicester Building Society when it became a bank and sent him a El 000 windfall. He claimed that because he had invested a fortune in the society, he was entitled to much more than the ordinary investor. He did not get it.

The Duke was a kind man. modest, unassuming and sometimes vague (he lost the ashes of his great-uncle, Lord Cecil Manners, by failing to mark the spot of burial). Occasionally he expressed re-actionary views, as when he declared in 1960: "If parents had smacked the little devils behinds when they were smaller, you would not have had so much juvenile crime." He and his wife entertained frequently at Belvoir.

He is succeeded in the dukedom by his son from his second marriage, the Mar-quess of Granby. His wife, his younger son and a daughter from that marriage also survive him, together with the daughter from his first mar-

SIR WILLIAM STUTTAFORD

Sir William Stuttaford, CBE, former Chairman of the Unit Trusts Association and President of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, died on January 2 aged 70.

He was born on

November 2L 1928.

BILL STUTTAFORD was one of the most respected of his mathematics and physics and generation in the City. He was quintessentially a City man of the old school, with the gravitas and charm of a figure from a novel by Galsworthy but without the portentousness. His flexibility and acute intelligence enabled him to adapt to the successive revolutions in one place. He was accepted the financial world over the with the proviso that he retake past 40 years, and to temper "the exam, but again he was. After a comparatively short

the policy of the various City firms in which he was involved so that they, and their clients, prospered exceedingly.

William Royden Stuttaford was born at Horning in Norfolk, the eldest son of Dr William and Marjorie Stuttaford. He was not destined for a City career. At Gresham's, Holt, where he was head of school, he revelled in classics. seemed set for a career in either the Church or medicine.

However, after Trinity College. Oxford, and National Service with the 10th Royal Hussars, he decided on a diplomatic career but he failed the Foreign Office exam by



less refused all suggestions of staying on and determined on a career in the City.

time as a fund manager with an insurance company, he ioined the stockbrokers Laurence Keen & Gardner, becoming a partner in 1959. His firm later amaigamated to form Laurence Prust and in 1983 he became senior partner. Stuttaford always champi-

oned the expansion of share ownership. Working within Laurence Keen & Gardner, he formed his first unit trust the Guernsey Trust — and a few years later he started Framlington, which was to prove one of the most successful of the unit trusts, and won numerous awards. He was chairman of the Framlington Group, 1983-89, and of the Unit Trust Association, 1987-89. He attributed the success of

his teams to a combination of

LEGAL NOTICES

SEBASTIAN HAFFNER

Sebastian Haffner, German author, died in Berlin on January 2 aged 91. He was born on December 27, 1907.

SEBASTIAN HAFFNER was one of modern Germany's most respected journalists and commentators. What was perhaps less well-known was that, as a political exile living in London during the Second World War and for almost a decade thereafter, he became a key figure in British journalism. One of David Astor's remarkable team of outstanding writers (who included George Orwell and Isaac Deutscher). Haffner helped to make The Observer. for a time, one of the most influential liberal newspapers

of the Western world. He had acquired British nationality in 1948, regarding himself as "the Prussian with a British passport". Yet, despite adyantageous sale. În 1994 he constituting an element of continuity between the two German Republics and a Britain fighting Hitler's Third Reich, Haffner curiously came to regard his English exile as little more than a temporary, and not entirely significant, interlude in a career forced from an overwhelming concern for Germany, its recent history and its future direction.

'Haffner was proud of his striking Sorb (or Wend) appearance and origins (the Sorbs were Slavs, regarded as racially distinct from the Germans). He was born in the capital of the Wilhelmine Reich as Raimund Pretzel. Trained as a lawyer, he was also an occasional journalist for Weimar papers. By 1936. with the Nazis in power, he decided that to pursue his chosen career as a judge would hardly be honourable, and he turned to journalism full-time. His sense of outrage at what was happening in Germany was sharpened by his acquisition of a Jewish girlfriend. Deeply shocked by the horror of the 1938 Kristallnacht, he understood that the new Germany could no longer

He fled to Britain in 1939, and lived in Wimbledon, where he at once began to write. His English soon be-came superb. In order to protect his family inside the Third Reich he took the pseu-donym by which he became famous (a keen music-lover as well as a nationalist, he lifted the "Sebastian" from Bach. and the "Haffner" from a symphony by Mozart). His first book on Hitler, Germany: Jekyli & Hyde, published by Secker & Warburg in 1940.

be their home.

Hitler and Nazism from a conservative perspective, so giving the lie to the widespread notion that the only opposition worth recognition came from the Left. Precisely because it appealed to decent German nationalism, rather than socialist or communist revolution, it seemed, usefully, to be capable of striking chords inside Germany as

This book had two important consequences. The first was that Haffner came to the attention of the British Foreign Office. This period, which finally ended with the German invasion of Russia in the summer of 1941, has been called the "unwinding of ap-



members of the British Government were still keen to drive, if they possibly could, a wedge between the Nazis and the German people. This offered opportunities to all those Germans, few in number but entirely noble in spirit, who sincerely wanted to destroy Hitler. One result was the creation by the Foreign Office of a German language news-paper, called simply Die Zei-tung, whose aim was the marshalling of the Nazis' German enemies. Haffner was seen as an ideal candidate for the editorship. Through his book he also

came to the attention of the remarkable David Astor, in secret war service but already being groomed by his father (who owned The Observer) as a future Editor. Astor (a friend of Adam von Trott, who was executed for his part in the 1944 conspiracy against Hitler) admired Haffner's intellectual and journalistic skills as much as his political stance. In 1941 Haffner began to

write for The Observer (resigning from Die Zeitung in 1943, by which time Whitehall's support for anti-Nazi Germans had evaporated entirely). He was acclaimed in Britain as soon became its chief leader

one of the first books to attack writer and established for it an enviable reputation as a paper which took foreign policy analysis as seriously as domestic comment. Haffner was convinced that Hitler in his drive towards the Caucasus would overstretch himself in the Soviet Union, and that this would lead to his ultimate defeat. It was Haffner, too (enthusiastically encouraged by Astor), who ensured that The Observer supported American involvement in European affairs.

> subject in 1948, but assumed German nationality again in 1972. He returned to divided Berlin in 1954, initially still under contract to The Observer. He chose the once and future capital, rather than Bonn, because he believed that it would be the major European source of conflict between the two superpowers. As a Berliner, he sought German-German rapprochement, even floating the idea that a neutral German nation could provide a much-needed buffer between capitalism and communism. He came to support Ostpolitik

for this reason, even though he

Increasingly disenchanted

was no Social Democrat.

Haffner became a British

with American policy in Europe, he soon turned his back on The Observer and severed contact with Astor, much to the latter's disappointment. Within the German press, he quickly became popular for his original and often iconoclastic viewpoints. He once said that it was a journalist's task to dramatise perfectly ordinary differences of opinion. His first post was with Christ und Welt; he then wrote for Die Welt and, after 1962, had a weekly column in Stern magazine. Impishly, he also wrote for Konkret. Ulrike Meinhof's outrageous avant garde paper, which became the bible of the student protest movement

After 1975 he concentrated on writing books: his Notes on Hitler (1978), written for a young readership, and his study of Prussia (1979) were considerable successes. He was a frequent chat-show guest on television. In 1984, on being asked who his heroes were, he replied without any hesitation whatsoever: "Bismarck - and Churchill." In a curious way, he was a missing link between them, a "good" German of the Right, who spanned the numerous reinventions of his homeland and was able to celebrate durable democracy within it.

His wife, son and daughter survive him.

to a section to the exp DEATHS

TYMMS - Dorothy (nds
Booth), peacefully on lat
Jamary in hospital
(Darlington) aged 81 years,
darling wife of Canon
Writrid Tymms, much
loved mother of Susan,
Peter and James, a dear
mother-in-leve and loving
grandmother of ten.
Service in St Mary's
Church, Geinford,
Darlington, Monday
January 1181, at 12 noon,
prior to private cremation
at Darlington
Crematorium, Family
flowers only please, flowers only please, donations in lieu if desire may be sent to St Mary's Church, Gainford.

may be sent to St Mary's Church, Gainford.
VENTOM - Margaret Ann.
Beloved wife of the late
Michael George, mother of
Mark, Gerard, Jane and
Felicity, and grandmother
of Michael Leo. Died
pescafully on New Year's
Eve 1998. Funeral at St.
Omnund's, Barnes, on 12th
January at 1.00pm.
Flowers to family.
Donations to
Breakthrough Bresst.
Cancer Charity, PO Box
7012, E1 SAZ. Tel: 0171 405
5111.
WALKER - Margaret
Elizabeth (Peggy) née
Oliver, on Saturday 2nd
January, peacefully at
home in Taunton, aged 90
years. Widow of George
Ronald, beloved mether of
Paul, Charles and
Katherine. Funeral
Service to take place at St.
John's Evangelist Church,
Staplegrove, Taunton, at
12.45pm on Monday 11th
January, Family flowers
only but donations if
desired for the Somerset
County Association for the
Blind, may be sent c'o
Taunton Funeral Servica,
55 Bridge Street, Taunton,
TAI 11TP.
WALSH - Im Mand, died
peacefully in her sleep on

TAI 1TP.
WALSH- Its Mand, died
peacefully in her sleep on
had January 1999, after a
short filmes, Beloved wife,
of Michael, mother of
Barry, Fions, Breffin and
Fergus and grandmother
to Scariest and Saskia. No
flowers please, but
donations may be made to
Themes Valley Hospice,
Hatcir Lane, Windson Si.4
334432008. I secondar Wate.

WATSON - Lavender Kata,
née Johnston, on New
Years Eve pascafully in
Watford General Hospital
Beloved wise of Marrin,
mother of Timothy and
Marcus, and grandmother.
Funeral private. A
memorial service will be
held in St James Parish
Church, Bushey at 10.30 on
Wadnesday, 13th Jamuary.
Donations to the
Benevolent Fund of the
Chartered Society of
Physiotherapists.
Enquiries to M.K. Ginder
& Sons Funeral Directors
422 Bushoy Mill Lane.
Watford, Berts WD2 2AS
Tel 01823 221851.

Tel 01823 EZ1561.

WELAN - On Sist December 1998, peccefully, James, aged 39 years, formerly of The White House, Bastow. Derbyshire, The beloved husband of the Inte Nadine and father of Tessa. Carole, and Peter. Pameral Service and Internent at St. Anne's Church, Baslow on Saturday Jamosary 9th, at 12 noon. Plowers or densitients for the Penefit of St. Anne's Church Baslow maybe sent to J. W. & J. Mettam Limited, Mill Street, Baskewell DE45.

Wageussi - Michael Douglas MBE, peacafully on 4th January aged 95. Much loved by wife Januar (deceased), and Antony, grandeons Timothy and Peter and office family and friends. Finesial Service at Exester Cranatorium on Friday 8th January at 11.00m. Fumily flowers only, denateless if desired to Royal National Lifeboar Lintimion c/o Crews and Son, Exmouth EXS INT. WYSARD - On Decisibler

Son, Exmouth EXS INT.

WYSARD - On December

24th, Carele-Ann Patricia.

Wysard (née Boblin), sadly departed this life after live months of colonais light.

Beloved wife of James and sister to Charlotte. Funeral Service at All Selms'.

Church, Maiden Bradley, on Saturday, lanuary 9th, at 3.60pm. Everybody welcome. Flowers may be sent to the Church. All donations, for those who cannot come, to the Imperial War Museum.

VATES - Burbara Gertrude.

cannot come, to the
Imperial War Museum,
VATES - Barbarz Gertrude,
last surviving sister of
Earry, Marjoris, Shella
and Jim. Previously of
Royal Hollayway College,
Survey quietly after a
short sudden illness. Love
from Jonnthem and Susan.
YEOMAN - Idones Evelyn
Mary peacefully at the
Bath Clinic on New Years
Eve. Devoted to her iamily
and late husband Philip.
Unfailing and much loved
mother of Charles, Penny
and Andrew and loved by
her nine grandchildren:
Funeral service at the Bath
Abbey on Wednesdey
January 13th at 230 pm.
Please, no Howers, but any
donations for Derothy
House Hospice c'd C.S.
Bowyer Ltd Funeral
Directors, 2 The Bullpit,
Bradford on-Avon.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

SEROCOLD - Raiph Serocold's Memorial Service will take place at St Mary's Church, Putney, London SW15 at 12 noon on Monday 11th January 1999, RSVP: E Serocold on 01223 215186.

SERVICES STRANCE - a Dottor deal from or Tel: 0181 959 1838 -op pagijigas shekasi iswis Agency. If you are plensy or profer a promy parent, sing 01352 7189 09

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proxime accessit. Ever grateful for the training, he nonethe-IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE STEMANT - Kyle. It is with great jegret that we have to amounce the pessing away of a dearly loved and respected friend who passed sway at 12.01sm on lat Innuary 1309. To all that knew and respected him, it will a great loss. TICKETS FOR SALE

FOR SALE .

YOME, PERMANY, since, Hosemba-li-basseoith Reputures in Hou-tiles. Cubble setts, stone troughs, manually service. Not it interest del. Holley Hestall G1380 850089 (Miles)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS LEGAL NOTICES IN THE MATTER OF

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BOOK 150 EXPLACEMENT OF NOTICE printed 15 Documber 1998
In the Nature of Townson Limited and in the Nature of Townson Limited and in the Nature of the Insolvency Act 1986
In secondarse with Rule 4.199(0), 1, Melvyn Julius Carter of Carwell Sacker Willens, Ellift Scoon, Bigging Hill, London Rijs SUU, give notice they on 3 Documber 1998, I was eppointed LightStore by vesselutions of passabors.

section there on 3 December 1976, I was appointed Liquidator by reachasticate of manufern. Section is hereby given that the creditors of the above named compute, which is being whentarily when up, are negative of a C between the computer of the creditors of the above named computer of the control of the c Non: This notice is purely formal.
All creditors have been or will be paid in Full.

Light Day of the Carlotte and the carlot

Date: 3 December 1998 COMPANY NUMBER 2044705
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(IN MEMICAL) COMPANY NUMBER 2044705 002 414.000 000 00000 002 414.0004 0010 0045710 103 40.000 0000 0000

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NOTICE TO CREDITIONS

On 18 December 1998 the shore
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THE CONTROL DATE CONTROL

T a member of the investment committee of the University of Kent, adviser to the special trustees of St Thomas' Hospital, financial adviser to the Ravne Foundation, a medical charity, and for many years a committee member of the Africa Centre. Politics were another great interest. He was chairman of the Conservative Party Political Centre, chairman of his local constituency in Essex and, from 1986 to 1989, of the FLIGHTS DIRECTORY East of England Conservatives. He became vice-chair-JETLINE man of the National Union of Conservative Associations and later its president, and chairman of the party conference. Appointed OBE in 1983 and advanced to CBE in 1989, he 0171 360 1111 was knighted in 1995. Apart from politics and finance, his interests centred on his family, the Church - he FARESAVERS was a churchwarden at his local church for 25 years — and latterly racing. In 1957 he married Sarah, daughter of the

FAUL 1: 169 CAMADA 1: 1199
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CAMADE 1 late Philip Legge, although the marriage was dissolved, they remained friends and she survives him, together with their two sons and two daughters. Jetworld In 1974 he married, secondly, D'Esterre Grahame, daugh-ter of the late Captain Sir Gerald Curteis, who shared, with good humour and loyalty, his many interests. She also survives him, with his two 01273 277 877 stepchildren. CHARIDINA

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A CANDID CRITIC OF THE PEACE

Mr. J. M. Keynes has written an extremely "clever" book on the Peace Conference and its economic consequences. It is the work of an erudite university don who was attached as adviser to the British Treasury during the war, and represented the Treasury officially at the Paris Peace Conference up to June 7, 1919. He also sat as deputy for the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the Supreme Economic Coun-cil. He states that "he resigned from these positions when it became evident that hope could no longer be entertained of substantial modification in the draft Terms of Peace. The purpose of his book is, he avers, to set forth the grounds of his objection to the Treaty or, rather, to the whole policy of the Conference towards the economic problems of Europe".

Readers are thus prepared for a critical economic treatise. In some respects they will not be disappointed. In others they will be surprised, amused, shocked, and not a little mystified. How came it, they may ask, that the man who could write the pages of incisive portraiture, not to say caricature, that fill the chapter on "The Conference," came to hold the position of technical adviser to one of the most technical Departments of State? How, unless

ON THIS DAY

January 5, 1920

Henry Wickham Steed, then Editor of The Times reviewed Keynes's Economic Consequences of the Peace. He concluded "in writing this book he has rendered the Allies a disservice for which their enemies will, doubtless, be grateful." John Maynard Keynes died in 1946.

his bias had been throughout akin to that of the conscientious objector, could be place the Allies persistently on the same moral level as

Germany in regard to the war?
Throughout his book Mr. Keynes protests with scarcely veiled passion against the miquities of the Peace Conference and of the Peace itself. The main iniquity in his eyes is the Allied "breach of faith" with Germany, who laid down her arms on conditions set forth in President Wilson's speeches but progressively violated, with his assent, by the Allied Governments during the negotiation of

Commence of the second second

the Treaty. This, at least, is Mr. Keynes's main argument. In some respects he makes out a strong case. But, as a whole, his cry against the Peace seems to us the cry of an academic mind, accustomed to deal with the abstractions of that largely metaphysical exercise known as "political economy," in revolt against the facts and forces of actual political existence. One illuminating passage in the introduc-

tory chapter may supply a clue to his obvious distress. "At any rate," he writes, "an English-man who took part in the Conference of Paris and was during those months a member of the Supreme Economical Council of the Allied Powers, was bound to become, for him a new experience (the italies are ours), a European in his cares and outlook. There, at the nerve centre of the European system, his British preoccupations must largely full away and he must be haunted by other and more dreatful spectres." If in the early months of 1919, it was a new experience for a prominent and responsible English official to leet and to think as a European, that official can never have understood the war. Still less can he have been fitted to handle the peace problems in Paris, every one of which was conditioned by the origin and the course of the war. Indeed, one of the most striking features of Mr Keynes's book is the political inexperience, not to say ingenuousness, which it reveals . . .

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE



Michael Owen slips his second goal past Shay Given of Newcastle in Liverpool's 4-2 win last week. Owen's six points took his total to 26. Photograph: Dan Chung/Reuters

Cup break gives players chance to boost confidence

tan Collymore, two goals against Hull City; Ibrahima Bakayoko, a brace at Bristol City: Gianluca Vialli, Steffer Iversen and Ritchie Humphreys. another two each against Oldham Athletic, Watford and Norwich City. And the crowning glory, a Darren Huckerby hat-trick as Coventry City hit seven goals past Macclesfield. Great goalscoring performances. coupled with fine defensive displays by Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers and Chelsea: unfortunately, all counting for nothing in Times Fantasy League

With FA Cup matches not counting towards Fantasy league points totals, the form of the players mentioned above is only noteworthy inasmuch as it may signify their confidence going into the next round of Premiership games, some of which are significant indeed.

The bottom four clubs come face to face when Nottingham Forest visit Coventry, while Southampton welcome Charlton to The Deli. Wimbledon play Derby, the last time they will face anyone other than Tottenham for some time, with FA and Worthington Cup ties following hard on the heels of the

league meeting at White Hart Lane.
This week's tables are updated to include the eight games play on Bank Holiday Monday (December 28) and the following evening's games between Chelsea and Manchester United and Leeds and Wimbledon.

It was a programme of matches that saw John Hartson and Ian Wright rediscover the goal touch that both had been sorely missing over previous weeks, and Arsenal remind everyone that they will not surrender their chamionship lightly with a clean sheet in victory at Charlton. Villa stayed ahead thanks to goals from defenders Ugo Ehiogu and the far-from-prolific Gareth Southgate, and Liverpool continued their recent improvement against Newcastle with two each from Michael Owen and Karlheinz

The most impressive individual performance of the week, however.



worth nine points, was that of Chris Armstrong of Tottenham, who scored three goals in the 4-1 win over

His rise to the top began at Wrexham, following a free transfer from Liay Welfare in March 1989. before a £500,000 fee took him to capital continued at Crystal Palace and then Tottenham, who paid Palace the surprising sum of £4,500,000 during the 1995 close season, bearing in mind that he had scored only eight goals. Injuries have often held him back at White Hart Lane but his ability to score goals has never been in doubt, and he is a deserving winner of our first Fantasy League player of the week award for 1999. **PRIZES**

European Cup final

● 55,090 for third place

sports equipment

● £10,000 to the runner-up

£500 weekly On-Target prize

The prize of a magnum of champagne offered to the winner of our Christmas Fantasy quiz goes to John Evans of Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys. Of the entries received, his, surprisingly, was the only one correctly to identify and link (Santa) Claus Lundekvarn, (The First) Noel Whelan, (On the feast of) Stephen Carr and Jason Eucli (log) to the theme of Christmas. We'll make it

easier next time. ■ Do not forget to check your team total against today's ON-Target numbers. If the numbers match, you have qualified to enter a draw which could win you £500 cash plus an EA Sports Pack. Even if your team scored no points at all in the week beginning December 28, you still have a chance of winning.

As I was saying

It's a bit of a shame that FA Cup games don't count in Fantasy League, isn't it? Depending on the players in your teams, ye I mean, if you had Darren Huckerby, you would have got nine points for his hat trick against

Perhaps that proves that it's a good job FA Cup results aren't counted. Should a goal against Macclesfield Town count as much as a

About the same, wouldn't you say? Forest lost at home to Portsmouth, after all. Yes, but Macdesfield have now gone out of the cup 7-0 two seasons in a row. And 111 bet Coventry would swap six of those goals on Saturday for one against Forest, whom they play next

That's a big game. If Coventry lose that one, they could be dragged back into the bottom three. Likely to be tight, I'd say. Steer clear of attackers involved in that one if you're planning any transfers, the defenders

might not be a bad risk, though. Actually, I was thinking of a Wimbledon attacker. Who had you planned on

signing? Well, Jason Euell, until his sending off on Saturday; but I was also having second thoughts about him because Joe Kinnear is playing him a bit deeper this season, and I'd rather have my forward picks right up front where they can get among the goals. What about Carl

Leaburn? Joe seems to have great faith in him.
Probably because he didn't pay very much for him, and he likes to annoy other managers about how little FULL BACKS

his team cost. But I thought you aiready had a Wimbledon player in your "Favourite Players XI". Yes, this is for one of my

other teams. You know, I'm not sure if Wimbledon players are the right ones to be looking at. All those cup ties might distract their attention from

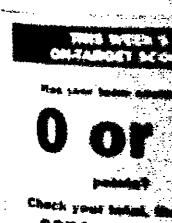
Good point. I suppose teams like Manchester United and Chelsea need to get as many points under their belts as possible before the European stuff starts again.

So they could be good teams to raid for stars. But all their players would be pricey. True, so steet clear. And if you're looking for ar excuse not to sign Chelsea. players, there seems to be a risk of their players being injured by foreign objects thrown from the stands, if the cup tie at Oldham is anything to go by. Hot dog!



CENTRE BACKS FORWARDS

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HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

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CLUB METUTE VALUE

W YALUE

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper, two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.

TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list nght. Add up the values of the 11 players in your

Submit your entry as soon as possible to madmit FANTASY TEAM NAME (up to 15 characters)

CENTREBACK NAME

MODFIELDER HAVIE

MADELDER NAME

MIDFIELDER KAME

FORWARD NAME

FORWARD NAME

LUCKY DIP It you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box.

team and make sure the total does not exceed 250m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or Rol) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our

● £50,300 to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the

● £1,690 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma

● £530 weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports

● £1,000 youth prize, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt

Youth League. LUCKY DIP if you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only. TO ENTER BY PHONE Call 0640 67 88 99 (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Catls from outside the UK are charged

at national Calls from payphones cost approxim double.

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Send with £2.50 entry fee (£10 stacking for entrants outside the UK or Rol) for The Times Ferenty League, Abacus House, Dudley St, Luten, Beds LL11 12Z	09
On which days do you wouldy buy The Times?	(e Fext
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nbers charge at national rates) FAXBACK

EK-UK +44 870 901 4279) backs cost £1 per animute (ex UK mbers changed at national rates)

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THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1999

Carbone a fine catch for Tiddlers

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The £1,000 prize for December is heading to North Yorkshire, thanks in no small part to 16 points from the talented Italian

ecember was a month of big games, outstanding individual performances and controversial refereeing decisions. Like every other month in the FA Carling Premiership, in other words. But there was the extra spice of the holiday fixtures, and the two titanic clashes between Chelsea and Manchester United.

So, what will we remember December for, and who were the Fantasy League players who made their marks on the month?

Aston Villa managed to say ahead of the chasing pack despite defeat at Chelsea; they made up for it by beating Arsenal 3-2 in a thrilling come-from-behind performance and sharing the points with Manchester United. At the other end of the table. Chariton began to slide into danger, and Southampton suggested that a rally might be on until Chelsea took three points at The Dell.

Referees were predictably to the fore thanks to the controversial dismissals of Michael Oakes, the Villa goalkeeper, in the defeat at Blackburn, and Patrick Vieira of Arsenal in their 1-0 win at The

Arguably the player of the month was Benito Carbone of Sheffield Wednesday, who enjoyed a purple patch in the middle of the month with goals against Nottingham Forest and Charlton Athletic, and his absence on Boxing Day was keenly felt when Leicester triumphed at Hillsborough. Carbone contributed 16 points to Tom's Tiddlers, the team chosen by the winner of the monthly prize for December, Brian Longbone of

Pickering, North Yorkshire. Pressure of work meant that Mr Longbone, a surveyor, was unable to pay as much attention as he might have liked to the progress of his side: thus news of his prize of £1,000 plus £100 worth of sports equipment was something of a surprise. "It has come as a shock," he said. "I thought I'd picked a good team, but not that good."

Mr Longbone took a methodical approach to team selection, working out how much he could afford to spend on each position. "You have a financial constraint," he said. "It might not have been the team I'd have picked if I had had free rein." Such strict financial planning was the reason behind the selection of Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, Mr Longbone's too points scorer, with 17. "£15 million for Alan Shearer would be a lot of money to the up in. one position. Hasselbaink was good

Mr Longbone has no particular footballing allegiance. "I just like to



Tom's Tiddlers	
E Da Coor (CHD)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
D Irwin (MAN)	
W Barton (NEW)	
R Fordinand (WES)	
B Carbone (SHE)	
D Anderton (TOT)	
Pince (LIV)	
M Haghes (WIM)	
J F Hasselbalak(LFE)	
Total soluter SS	

see good football, and I try to identify what a good footballer should be."

In general, he avoided

"controversial figures; the team is based on good quality professional players". Some might wonder about the inclusion of Warren Barton, who has played at left back for Newcastle this season, despite the admission of Ruud Gullit, his manager, that "he hasn't got a left foot", but the selection of Michael Hughes and Julian Joachim, both of whom have garnered rave reviews for their performances this season, shows that Mr Longbone's policy of not breaking the bank for big stars can bring success. Are you watching, Mr

The winner of the weekly prize of £500 plus £100-worth of sports equipment, Ridwan Patel, of the University of Surrey, had Chris Armstrong of Tottenham, our player of the week and scorer of a hat-trick against Everton, to thank for nine of the 26 points scored by his team. The Supersonics. Three of his four defenders (Dennis Irwin, Steve Walsh and Rio Ferdinand) managed clean sheets, while Robbie Earle and Dean Surridge came up with valuable goals.



The new Ian Wright? Chris Armstrong also left Crystal Palace for North London, and now finds himself working under George Graham, as Wright did during his best days at Arsenal. His hat-trick against Everton ensured that the Spurs revival continued; the chat-show is surely only a matter of time . . .

2366 20275 2 Oi Not Again Re Kalbs Kings 8 Corazon Fis 5 Coen Brothen Pm-Ups 7. David Young Dave 10...... Solid At The Bac Tr's All Stars. Boogaloo Dude Stammosnutter Pomo Flick. Tyneside Army 94 Murray's Marvels Minus Threat 10 Pride O The Rock James Inglis. Philip Morter ,Složi Vanil The Times Eleven emies Rea Sam Kalsh. Nathan Car Son FC. Nath's Champs Team C. Valnot Two Do I Need Owenic 203 203 202 202 202 202 .Euro Stars. .829,360 ... Team 7152. 201 201 201 201 201 201 200 Super Saddlers B Inter City 442..... Goals 'R Us...... Robert Mort Phil Tusier... 200 200 200 200 200 200 199 199 199 199 199 199 199 .Colour Me Bitur Melton United Nathan's Lads These Eat Bea Mick Martin Phil Tuster. Heart Of Glas **Ed Wicke** 199 198 198 198 198 198 198 Zane Rado One Paul Byme D Osborne... Mick Sharpe Gage...... Geocir United James Kerr... David Edmon Keith Hall.... Plus nine others on 197 points

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

What do you mean your team is hopeless? You can win £500

Enter a new team now for ON-Target, where this week your team need not score any points at all in order to win the weekly prize

ongratulations to Martyn Robin-son, the third week's main winner of ON-Target, who finds himself £500 richer and possessor of an EA Sports Pack. Fourteen other managers have also won themselves New Year priz-

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now - or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. The Times has eamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned FIFA 99 game. Every week you nave the chance to win: Ist Prize: £500 plus an

EA Sports Pack ■ 4 runners up: EA ports Packs ■ 10 additional runners

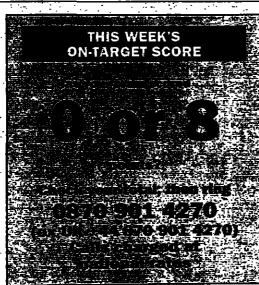
up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom. Each EA Sports Pack conains: FIFA 99 for the Play-fation; FIFA 99 for the PC; 'A Sports T-Shirt, key ring nd mini football plus a ecord bag. F YOU already have a

cam in the main game. nen you're ready to play N-Target. Simply check our Fantasy League playrs' score each week and æ if their total is the same s our ON-Target score nown here each Tuesday. you have scored the exact irget points, a quick call our ON-Target winners' ne (national rate call) will at you in the draw to win ne of the 15 prizes.

he ON-Target score may : high or low. There could : more than one score uch as today). It could be minus score. So it's worth ecking your performice every week.

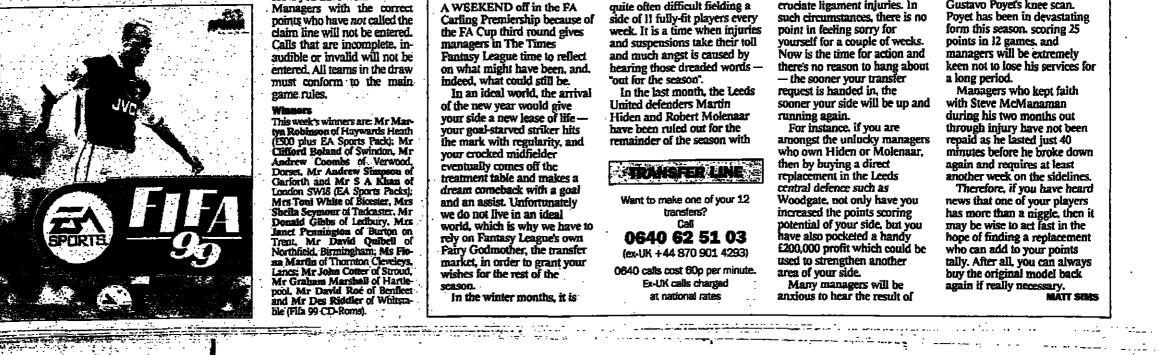
st have your PIN unber handy to call the mners line on:

0876 901 4270



If you don't have a team, or want to sign up another your players' weekly one, enter now by filling in point scores opposite the entry form. There are and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 teams you enter. Not only 102 If your total score for could you win the ON-Tar- this week matches the get prizes, but you could win the main game week-(£500) or monthly (E1,000) prizes.

HOW TO ENTER: Look up ON-Target number(s). then call our claim line on 0870 901 4270 (calls, charged at national rate.





should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday

If you have scored the correct number of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won. Managers with the correct

points who have not called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the maingame rules.

This week's winners are: Mr Mar-This week's winners are. Mr Mar-tyn Robinson of Haywards Heath (E500 plus EA Sports Pack); Mr Clifford Boland of Swindon, Mr Andrew Coonds of Verwood, Dorset, Mr Andrew Stanpson of Garforth and Mr S A Khan of London SW18 (EA Sports Packs); Mrs. Toni White of Biossier, Mrs Sheila Segmour of Talcaster, Mrs Mrs. 10th Whee to Bocslet, Mrs. Sheila Seymour of Tadcaster, Mr Donald Gibbs of Ledbury, Mrs. Janet Pennington of Burton on Trent, Mr David Quibell of Northfield, Birmingham; Ms Fiona Martin of Thornton Cleveleys, Lorse Ma John Corter of Strand Lanes; Mr John Cotter of Stroud, Mr Graham Marshall of Hartle-pool, Mr David Roe of Benfleet and Mr Des Riddler of Whitsta-ble (Fila 99 CD-Roms).

SECTION AND STATEMENT OF SECTION SECTI Last week's teaser asked you to find the



connection between the four players' pictures using your body of footballing knowledge. The players were Carlton PALMer. Robbie MusTOE, Marcus HEDman and lan HARTE. Spetting aside, the bodily parts become



apparent. This week try and between the quartet pictured. Answers on this page next

Two weeks ago our Christmas quiz asked you to discover the easonal connection between four players. Answers and prize details are mentioned in the article above.





CHECK YOUR SCORES TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

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	your	HIEAGUETOP 10	<u>.</u>
1	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	216
2	Stuart Rutter	Spitonthevilla	210
3	Graham Jevon	Gage	198
3	Richard Low	Geocir United	198
5		The M Team	197
6	Richard Burton		196
6	Nicholas Fenney	Fillesenfleurs	196
6		Birchall Butlets	196
9	Paul Williams	Where Was Gazza	195
10	David Swithenbank	Titus Ali Stars	194



Julian Joachim, who features in the Tom's Tiddlers team

Are you carrying crocks in your team?

A WEEKEND off in the FA Carling Premiership because of the FA Cup third round gives managers in The Times Fantasy League time to reflect on what might have been, and.

indeed, what could still be. In an ideal world, the arrival of the new year would give your side a new lease of life your goal-starved striker hits the mark with regularity, and your crocked midfielder

eventually comes off the treatment table and makes a dream comeback with a goal and an assist. Unfortunately we do not live in an ideal world, which is why we have to rely on Fantasy League's own Fairy Godmother, the transfer market, in order to grant your wishes for the rest of the SCASOD. In the winter months, it is

hearing those dreaded words out for the season". In the last month, the Leeds United defenders Martin Hiden and Robert Molenaar have been ruled out for the remainder of the season with

quite often difficult fielding a

side of 11 fully-fit players every

week. It is a time when injuries

and suspensions take their toll

and much angst is caused by

TRANSFER LINE Want to make one of your 12

transfers? 0640 62 51 03 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 catts cost 60p per minute.

Ex-UK calls charged

at national rates

point in feeling sorry for yourself for a couple of weeks. Now is the time for action and there's no reason to hang about — the sooner vour transfer request is handed in, the sooner your side will be up and running again.

cruciate ligament injuries. In

For instance, if you are amongst the unlucky managers who own Hiden or Molenaar, then by buying a direct replacement in the Leeds central defence such as Woodgate, not only have you increased the points scoring potential of your side, but you have also pocketed a handy £200,000 profit which could be used to strengthen another area of your side. Many managers will be

anxious to hear the result of

such circumstances, there is no Poyet has been in devastating form this season, scoring 25 points in 12 games, and managers will be extremely keen not to lose his services for a long period. Managers who kept faith with Steve McManaman

Gustavo Poyet's knee scan.

during his two months out through injury have not been repaid as he lasted just 40 minutes before he broke down again and requires at least another week on the sidelines.

Therefore, if you have heard news that one of your players has more than a niggle, then it may be wise to act fast in the hope of finding a replacement who can add to your points tally. After all, you can always buy the original model back again if really necessary.

THE TIMES TODAY

Labour feud claims third victim

Senior members of the Cabinet last night urged their colleagues "to draw a line" under the most damaging episode of Mr Blair's Government, as the home loan affair claimed its third important casualty.

Charlie Whelan, the Chancellor's trusted press secretary was forced to resign after continuing accusations that he was the culprit who leaked details of the £373,000 loan to Peter Mandelson from Geoffrey Robinson....

Euro enjoys smooth global launch

Europe's fledgeling currency was given a royal baptism by the financial markets in a day's trading that saw it rise against the dollar. European Union leaders greeted the launch in the City. the Continent, Wall Street and Asia as a sign of confidence that the euro is set to establish itself alongside the dollar Page 1

Flu calls jam 999 Cold war camp plan Panicking flu patients are precipitating a crisis in the overstretched health service by making 999

Birds ruffle Dome

Work on the Millennium Dome could be halted by the arrival of three pairs of black redstarts, one of the country's rarest nesting birds, at the construction site in Greenwich. It is against the law to disturb the "bombsite birds" once they start nesting, due to start next month..........Pages 1, 7

calls to demand ambulances to

take them to hospital ... Pages 1, 8

Diana coin issued

Sixteen months after her death, Diana Princess of Wales takes her place on a coin of the realm. The new £5 commemorative coin. unveiled by the Royal Mint today. is the first of four official memorials to the Princess Page 2

Yemeni bomb plot

The leader of the terrorist gang who kidnapped 16 Western tourists in Yemen had planned to bomb British targets in Aden five days earlier... ...Page 3

Storms lash Scotland

Gale force winds gusting at 83mph battered Scotland and Ireland yesterday leaving one man dead and thousands without electricity. A 74-year-old man drowned when he was blown into the River Almond at Cramond,

A secret plan to send thousands of Americans to Butlin's holiday camps before evacuating them from Europe in the event of war with the Soviet Union has been rewealed in documents released under the 50-year rule......Page 9

US cautious on euro

The Clinton Administration has greeted the launch of the euro with a cautious enthusiasm that belies the problems the projectPage 10 may present

Mosque massacre

Gunmen opened fire on Shia Muslims as they knelt in prayer at a mosque in eastern Punjab province yesterday, killing 16 people. Injured worshippers crawled to loudspeakers and pleaded for ... Page 11

Angola in turmoil

Tens of thousands of Angolan civilians face starvation and death after the United Nations suspended flights to war torn parts of the country, sparking fears that the rebel Unita movement aimed to overrun government-held towns sheltering hundreds of thousands of refugees... ..Page 12

Washington wives

The clearest indications yet that Hillary Clinton is planning to launch her own political career electrified Washington as preparations continued for her husoutside Edinburgh Page 5 band's Senate trial Page 13

Tourist marries her Aussie hero

A backpacker from Birmingham has married her own "Crocodile Dundee" after he rescued her from a crocodile-infested river in the Australian outback. Abigail Wilkinson's dramatic meeting with her husband-to-be. David Wielders, happened while she was on a canoeing trip at Fitzroy Crossing in Western Australia..... Page 10



British troops working with Nato in Macedonia yesterday held a remembrance service in Skopje for soldiers killed in World War One

Shares leap: European stock markets celebrated the smooth introduction of the euro with a euphoric surge, as investors bought into Europe's biggest companies...Page 23

.ICI sethacic Shares in ICI plunged yesterday after US regulators blocked the sale of ICI's Tioxide business to DuPont and NL Indus-.Page 23 Merger expected: Bell Atlantic and AirTouch Communications, the

their \$45 billion merger, but are still expected to agree to a deal this .. Page 23 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 3.20 points to 5879.4. The pound fell 0.41 cents to \$1.6599 and 0.56p against the euro to 71.09p..Page 26

United States phone companies,

have delayed an announcement of

Football: Keith Wiseman resigned as chairman of the Football Association after admitting that he had made mistakes in his contacts with the FA of Wales. The vice-chairman. Geoff Thompson, takes over as acting chairman.......Page 44 Cricket: Michael Slater scored 123 out of Australia's total of 184 in the final Test in Sydney......Page 40 Salling: Senior figures within the Royal Yachting Association are

primary sponsors for their Ameri-Racing: A new daily racing paper could be on the streets in time for the Cheltenham Pestival after nine months of negotiations with potential backers. _Page 39

exasperated by the failure of the

Spirit of Britain syndicate to secure

Cast out: Two powerful new London exhibitions devoted to the works of Rachel Whiteread and Kerry Stewart are haunted by sad shapes and glacial shadows ofPage 31

Fancy tootwork: A cast change for

the Royal Ballet's La Fille mal gardée at the Festival Hall puts Cuban recruit Carlos Acosta in the limelight.... ...Page 32 Parent power: While the Government ponders the sad state of arts education, artists from Lesley Gar-

rett to Antony Gormley reveal how their own offspring fare Page 33 Street people: How North London reacted to the "forum theatre" of Brazilian guru Augusto Boal and the Cardboard Citizens company of homeless performers...... Page 33

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE

You might think

HOMES

for a house?

vour business is safe,

bug could still ruin it

but the millennium

Should a buyer be

able to find out what

a seller originally paid

D NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England: outbreaks of rain, some heavy. Direr towards evening. Moderate southwesterly wind. Mex 12C (547).

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scottand, Glasgow: cold start. Rain and hill-snow spreading from the south in atter-noon. A light east to southeasterly wind. Max 5C (4TF).

☐ Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scot-land, Orlaney, Sheband: cold with surny spells and isolated showers, some winty, Light west to northwest wind. Max 7C (45F).

□ N treland: clouding over after a cold start with rain for the afternoon. Light varia-ble wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ Republic of Ireland; dull, with periods of rain, heavy at times. Wind variable or moderate, nontheasterly. Max 9C (48F).

Outlook for Wednesday and Thursday: Wednesday will continue mild in the south, although early suriny spells will become contined to the southeast as rain

spreads from the northwest. Scotland and Northern treamd will see rain clearing to showers. Most places will have further rain on Thursday and it will be quite windy.

Forbidden destre: Genetic sexual attraction is common between long-lost relatives. One woman's story... Dr Thomas Stuttaford: How a won-

women...Page 14 Think small: "Lose weight even while eating second and third helpings of traditional main courses." The second extract from Dr Robert

der drug of 1998 will be a boon for

New group: Yet another rival to existing small business organisations, has been set up....... Page 30

On the move: "We must approach change with confidence." Frances Gibb, the new Chairman of the Bar Council... ...Page 35 Holiday worry: Planning an excursion to somewhere exotic? How well-informed are you.......Page 37

Whether the powerful bomb that blew away a bridge on the road Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was to take was actually an assassination attempt or a warning to him, must remain a matter of conjecture. But given the history of violence in the subcontinent, it would not be surprising if this was an attempt on his life, botched by incompetence or poor technology. Hong Kong Standard

el the world in search of seafood recipes: Seafood Odyssey (BBC2, 8.30pm) Preview: Joe Joseph recalls the ups and downs in a new docu-...... Pages 42, 43

Preview: Rick Stein returns to trav-

Storms and teacups

The departure of Charlie Whelan, the Chancellor's colourful but destructive press secretary, is not likely in itself to prove of enormous consequence to the direction and fortunes of the Government... Page 17

Pity Pakistan

Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, has promised to crack down on terrorism. But he shows neither the will nor capacity to do so ... Page 17

Pre-millennium bug

For most people the cure for flu is simple: take a hot, sweet drink, find a good book or programme and go to bed.

LIBBY PURVES

The three Blaireens will not be back from the Seychelles today to begin the arduously long state school Easter term. At this point the Prig Tendency starts competing

MICHAEL GOVE

The High Priest of the Third Way is himself at fault. For two things. His "project" is driven by calculation, not principle, and his Government in consequence operates as a court: not an enterprise Page 16

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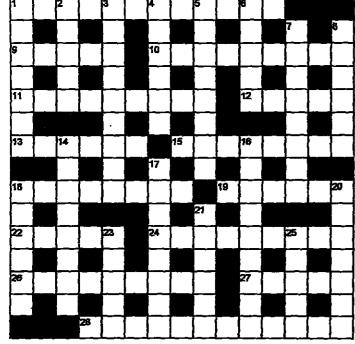
IRWIN STELZER

Some of you worry about the long er-term prospects for the world's only superpower. For those who like to think about that, I will share a recurrent nightmare...... Page 16

Charles John Robert Manners. 10th Duke of Rutland; Sir William Stuttaford, CBE, former chairman of the Unit Trusts Association and president of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations; Sebastian Haffner, German author...Page 19

UK commissioners for Brussels: society's "moral wasteland". Fifties public housing: birth of the euro; woodland burials; causes of gout; strain of the train; Balliol protest; Shakespeare tribute: Shakespeare honoured...

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,992



ACROSS

1 Movement in simple dance with variation in time (12).

9 Dog's makeshift monument (5). 10 Handle action that establishes proof of ownership (5-4). 11 Decline to put small pig with old

sow (3,2,4). 12 Duck or gull losing head (5). 13 Contemplating return of stick to curb transgression (6).

15 Uncultured fellow taking certain ballads to heart? Quite likely (8). 18 Gain distinction from project

19 Muck, for example, found in middie of street (6).

22 Warm and cosy place needed by King Lear (5). 24 In confusion, tries fire alarms (9).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,991

26 Most deliveries are made so pre cipitately (9). 27 Reptile unlikely to multiply? (5). 28 Police officer at end of chase ex-

amining body (12). 1 Propriety requiring no drink to be

served after festive month (7). 2 One coming down from noble family for shoot (5).

3 Murderer's refuge in sleep (4,2.3). 4 Vessel from Cape, say (6). Ring lighters getting to perform in a smart turnout (8).

6 Family member announcing holiday destination on Med (5). 7 A number becoming disorderly under pressure to find shady area

8 Form an attachment nowadays with present (6). 14 Collect for service in Chinese city

16 Sole punishment for a bandit so awful (9). 17 Plant denied chlorophyll at the

outset is flatter (6.2). 18 Not much of a rebuff (6). 20 Earn a lot of leave on day of victory (7).

21 Skill needed to get round cold here - freezing cold, mostly (6). 23 Impish temale diving into rising river (5).

25 One's leaving an Eastern state for another (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44 and all other derivative forms by Tomes Newspapers Ltd. PO Box 495, Vereinia Street, London El 900, Ede-phrase 017-752 5000 and also privated at Kaling Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 94-10, telephrase 0154-546 2010 Tuerday, January S. 1999, Registered as a newspaper at the fost (filling.

Millennium bug

act now!

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World City We 0336 41 (216 0336 416)22

Sun sets: 4.06 pm

London 4.06 pm to 8.05 am Bristol 4.16 pm to 8.15 am Edinburgh 3.54 pm to 8.42 am



NEWSPAPERS



☐ Gemeral: England and Wales will again be very mild, but it will be cloudy with out-breaks of rain and drizzle. The rain will be

breaks or rain and chape. The rain will be heaviest across Wales and northern England and brighter sides will push northwards across southern England later on. After a chilly start, cloud and rain will spread into Northern Ireland and will also edge into southern Scotland, turning wintry over the Highlands at first. Further north, it will stay out with a mix of army shells and showers. cold with a mix of surmy spells and showers

☐ Tonight: cloudy and wet in northern England, Scotland and Northern Ireland with snow over the Scotlish mountains. Central England and Wales will be cloud but dry, white southern England and Wales will be considered. while southern England will have som

☐ London, SE England, Central S England: mild and cloudy with patchy drizzle. Brighter later. Moderate southerly wind. Max 14C (57F).

CI E Anglia, E Midfanda, E England, W Midfands, SW England, S Wales, N Wales: morning cloud and rain clearing only stowly but mid. Moderate to fresh south to southwesterly wind. Max 13C

Channel Islands: cloudy, then surny spells. Wind fresh, southerly. Max 13C (55F).

BESSTATES BESTERNING TO SERVICE STATES OF SERVICE SERVICES OF SERV



Changes to the chart from noon yesterday: low A will merge with low D and run northeast, with little change in pressure. Low B will move away to the east and deepen. High C will be slow moving.



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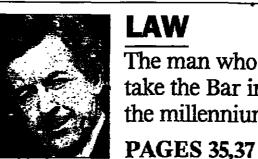
Janet Bush says UK euro entry is not inevitable **PAGE 27**



ARTS

Who will discover the Lesley Garretts of tomorrow?

PAGES 31-33



LAW

The man who will take the Bar into the millennium

TELEVISION AND **RADIO Pages** 42, 43

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1999

ICI falls 6% after US puts block on **Tioxide** disposal

By CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL

SHARES in Britain's largest quoted chemical company plunged yesterday after US regulators blocked the sale of ICI's Tioxide business to

DuPont and NL Industries. Concern that the group's billion disposal programme would be further delayed caused ICI shares to shed 6 per cent, reducing the chemical company's market value by £210 million. Standard & Poor's, the debt-rating agency, yesterday revised ICI's outlook from stable to negative, warning that the group's ability to divest speedily and reduce its £4.4

billion in debt was uncertain. ICI added to the sense of urgency by announcing a hig-restructuring of its paints, industrial specialties and balochemicals businesses lead-

ing to the loss of 1,000 jobs. The UK will suffer about 500 redundancies, of which between 300 and 400 will affect ICT's Runcorn plant where the Halochemicals business is based. A further 120 jobs will be lost from industrial specialties in Wartmeton.

ICI has been forced to ide, a pigments business, because of concerns by Washington's Federal Trade Commi sion that the buyers would se-Tioxide makes titanium dioxide, a whitener used in paint. DuPout would have secured some 33 per cent of the world market and an important share in imports to the US.

Charles Miller Sinith. ICI's chief executive, said that the company would look at all the options for Tioxide, including a trade sale and break-up of the compa-ny but he indicated that flotation was now a preferred option. He said: "An IPO is a good front-runner." He also indicated that financial buyers, such as leveraged buy-

by Tioxide's cashflow. City analysts were less enthused by the flotation plans. Robyn Coombs. of Merrill Lynch, said that a public offer would be diffiprice, offering less recovery

potential for investors.

The company insisted that the earnings impact of not achieving the planned sales would be neutral and predict ed that pre-tax profits would exceed £315 million in 1998 and confirmed that it would pay an unchanged full-year dividend of 32p per share. The £120 million pre-tax restructuring charge will wipe out much of the £120 million post-tax gain from the sale of Teesside Utilities and Services but will pay back £70 mil-

lion in a full year.
ICI is cutting 10 per cent of the workforce in its US paints business where margins have been damaged in a recent price war.

European shares surge as TODAY single currency gains value

PAUL DURMAN AND RICHARD MILES

EUROPEAN stock markets celebrated the smooth introduction of the euro with a enphoric surge, as investors rushed to buy into Europe's biggest companies. London, however, was left out of euro-

land's party.
The benchmark Dow Jones Euro STOXX 50 index of 50 curozone blue chips jumped 6 per cent but, in contrast, London's FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed 3.2 points lower at 5,879.4.

David Bowers, a European equity strategist at Merrill Lynch, said: The ins have had a better day than the outs."

The euro appreciated modestly as many had expected, bitting early highs above \$1,19, compared with the \$1.16875 level at which its precursor, the ed life on Thursday. However,

by afternoon trading, the euro had eased back to \$1.1790. and eased back to \$1.1790. Nick Holiby, an equity trad-The pound ended a volatile er at Warburg Dillon Read,

By RICHARD MILES

NATWEST yesterday mounted a brave, but apparently doomed, defence of the pound by refusing to put the euro first when quoting conversion rates for the single currency in the wholesale markets.

While virtually every other big City institution accepted the euro as the fixed element in the conversion formula no doubt reflecting its likely displacement of sterling as

day of trading at just above 71 pence to the euro. During the of more than 3 per cent against the single currency, hitting a high of 70 pence and a low of 72.45 pence to the euro. Its trade-weighted index fell to 99.0 from 99.7.

sterling per euro

one of the world's reserve currencies - NatWest clung deter-

Alas, NatWest is having to rethink its patriotic stance in the light of the market prac-tice of quoting 7lp to the curp, rather than 1.4 curps to the pound. Anneke Van Woudenberg, who has led the conversion programme for Nat-West's capital markets divi-sion, said the bank may

change its policy of putting first had been the subject of the pound first for the sake of some heated debate in the inclarity in the market. "You dustry during the run-up to said that the first day of dealing in the euro had been "spec-

The most dramatic action was on Europe's bourses. In Frankfurt, the blue chip Xetra DAX index jumped by 5.7 per cent with telecoms stocks leading the charge. Deutsche Tele-

HOUR BY HOUR. THE EURO MAKES ITS MARK

tacularly uneventful" and that

kom was outstanding, jumping by nearly 16 per cent. In Paris the CAC-40 blue chip index closed 5.2 per cent higher with France Telecom

unique situation," she said.

should be expressed. We have adopted a flexible approach." Ms Van Woudenberg added that it would be determined dur-

ing the course of the first trad-

ing day whether it was more ap-

propriate to put the euro first in

Which currency should go

the wholesale markets.

There is no one body which

up more than 8 per cent. In Madrid the Ibex blue chip index closed 6.21 per cent higher but, outperforming all these, was the Italian stock

chip Mib30 index of 6.44 per cent. This was the second-biggest one-day rally since Milan introduced its electronic trading system at the start of 1994.

proved impossible to come to

a unanimous view, the consen-

sus was for the euro first, ac-

cording to Margaret Soden,

senior manager of the EMU programme at HSBC.

One consequence of relegat-

ing sterling to second place is

that the pound will disappear

from City screens as conver-

sion rates are expressed in

pence. Traders are already

getting used to thinking of 70p or 71p to the euro," said Ms

have to remember this is a conversion. While it had

Mr Bowers, of Merrill Lynch, expressed surprise at the magnitude of the rallies, saying that some European markets had looked quite expensive. He attributed the

people were told to refrain from dealing in the run-up to the conversion weekend. This was the first chance for the liquidity to get into the market," He added that the intro-

duction of the euro highlighted the extent to which European assets were "underowned" relative to the impor-

tance of European economies. Eric Chaney, head of European economic research at Morgan Stanley, said that it was unusual for European equities, currencies and bonds

to move up in tandem. He said: "I would have thought today [that] Germans bought French equities, Italians bought French bonds, and so on. The euro makes and there is no currency risk."

Mr Chaney said that, although the strength of yester-day's rally could not be sus-tained, the outlook for European equities in the first half of this year was positive. Some voices were more

sceptical. George Magnus, chief economist at Warburg Dillon Read, said that the strength of the euro was not intrinsic but reflected the weakness of the dollar. Commenting on European stock markets, Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at the Charterhouse Group, said that the German markets did not look warranted by the economic background. "It's the mood of the day," he said.

"Only history will tell us whether the introduction of the euro deserves to be treated as it has been by the French and German markets. I'm deeply suspicious," he added. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was quoted about 70 points higher at mid-session.

> Commentary, page 25 Economic View, page 27

STOCK BURBLET
FTSE 100 \$879.4 (-3.2) Yield 278% FTSE All Share 2573.18 (-0.74) Nikkei 13415.89 (-426.28)
New York: 9328.94(+145.21)* S&P Composite 1245.88(+16.85)*
USRATE
Long bond 101°±* (101°±) Yield 5.16%* (5.12%)
LONDON MONEY
3-mth interbank 6% (6%) Liffe long gift future (Mar) 119.64 (119.06)
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New York: \$ 1.6594* (1.6607)
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MORTH SEA OIL

Mobile phones well connected

SHARES in telecoms compaoperators revealed that between them they had added 2.5 million new customers in the three months running up to the end of the year.

Vodafone, the market leader, added 933,000 customers in the quarter, more than the whole industry together added in the third quarter of 1998. The Christmas push of socalled "pre-pay" packages were mainly responsible for the massive growth.

> Report, page 23 Stock market, page 26

MPC rate-setters get mixed picture

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR ends on Thursday. A poll of 19

MANUFACTURING activity fell sharply again in December, but evidence that the recent fall in exports has begun to ease provided an ambigu-ous backdrop to this week's meeting of the Bank of England Monetary Policy

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply said that total manufacturing fell for the ninth consecutive month and that the decline was the third-largest in a month since the survey was begun seven years ago. How- interest rates at its meeting, ever, the institute's export or- which starts tomorrow and

ders index improved from 38.9 in November to 42.2 in Decemher, signalling a slowing in the pace of decline that purchas-ing managers attributed to the depreciation of sterling. The pace of redundancies in manufacturing also slowed last

The institute's prices index fell to a new low of 35.1, from 35.2 in November, underlining current disinflation at home and abroad The City is divided on whether the MPC will once again cut

economists by Reuters con-ducted after the last monetary policy meeting in December found that seven expected rates to be cut again, with Il predicting that the next move would be in February or March and one "don't know". Supporting the view that the MPC will stay its hand on

rates were figures yesterday showing that the consumer's appetite to borrow remains robust. Borrowing on credit cards rose by a record £559 million in November, the biggest monthly rise since the Bank of

England started publishing this series in 1993.

rose by £1.3 billion, just exceeding the £1.2 billion rise report-ed in October. The figures seemed to confirm data showing stronger than expected shop sales in the run-up to

Christmas. Coinciding with yesterday's British purchasing managers' survey were similar reports from America, Germany and Italy, which were uniformly weak in the face of fragile world demand. In America the chasing Management said that cember for the seventh month in a row. The association's monthly index of business activity fell to its lowest level since May 1991, contrary to Wall Street forecasts of a small rise. In Germany the Purchasing Managers' index showed the

largest drop in output and the lowest level of output since the survey began in April 1996. It was the third monthly decline in a row. In Italy purchasing managers reported a drop in export orders for the sixth con-

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US phone company merger delayed

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

US phone companies, yester—week of trading Executives of ments in one of the first tele-day delayed an announcement. Bell. Atlantic are worried coms mega-mergers, Bell of their \$45 billion (£27 billion) about goodwill charges that Atlantic absorbed Nynex and merger, but are still expected to agree to a deal this week.

in talks after their shares er has prolonged new year celein talks after their shares er has prolongen new year determined on speculation. The brations on Wall Street. After boards of both comparies met last year's begans that saw on Sunday but failed to appear all ten of the biggest mergers prove the merger documents, in the space of 12 months, and Accounting issues are said lysts had predicted a calming to have prevented a family of of activity.

they tear could hold back profits for years to come.

The two local service provide: The prospect of starting ers were forced to admir being: 1999 with another mega merg-

BELL ATLANTIC and Air the merger before markets. Bell Atlantic is no stranger Touch Communications, the opened for the year's first to Wall Street's merger departments. In one of the first telelast year agreed to take over GTE, another phone and Internet company. The GTE deal has yet to be completed, mak-

ing the AirTouch deal all the more ambitious. The driving force behind Coast while AirTouch is Bell Atlantic's buying spree is strongest on the West Coast. a move to offer integrated serv. Both compete with AT&T. ices to US customers, both geo-graphically and across prod-cable company. Regulators

uct segments. One analyst said: 'The highest margins are to be had when you carry traffic from beginning to end on your own network." The main benefit to Bell Atlantic of the merger with Air-

Touch will be a combination of mobile phone services. Bell Atlantic is a dominant mobile phone operator on the East forced TCI to divest its mobile phone interests. Similar restrictions may be placed on Bell-AirTouch. Analysts said Bell Atlantic and Air Touch were particular-

ly well matched because they used the same mobile phone The combination of their networks should be far easier than some of the other recent telecoms mergers. AT&T's \$32 billion acquisition of TCI, in particular, is said to have re-

celerating wave of consolidation in the American telecoms sector stands in marked contrast to the European market, which has seen the creation of countless private operators competing with former state monopolists such as BT and Deutsche Telecom.

costs of up to \$5 billion. The ac-

While Europe is increasing competition to bring down prices, the US is seeing a growing limitation of consumer choice in a bid to create econosulted in extra infrastructure i mies of scale.

PowerGen buys plants for £95m

PowerGen boosted its stocks of environmentally friendly generation yesterday with the £94.9 million purchase of Yorkshire Electricity's combined heat and power (CHP)

The power plants, which supply large businesses and public buildings, produce more power for less fuel and operate on a smaller scale than other forms of electricity generation. They are the only type, so far, to escape the Government's moratorium on new gas-fired power stations.

The four CHP plants from Yorkshire will be added to PowerGen's existing stock of five such plants and will, the generator said, mark its commitment to expanding in environmentally friendly power.

GKN in US deal

GKN, the engineer, is follow-ing up last month's purchase of the Interlake Corporation with a further US deal that will see it take full control of one of interlake's investments. It has negotiated the right to pay \$65 million (£39 million) for the 20 per cent of Hoeganaes, a powdered metal supplier, that In terlake does not own. It will be able to take posession of the stake, currently owned by Hōganās a separate Swedish company, a year after the Interlake deal is completed.

C&W acquisition Cable & Wireless, the telecoms company, has acquired ECRC Network Services, a German Internet service provider (ISP), from ICL for £27.5 million. The purchase is the first since the resignation of Dick Brown as chief executive of C&W. ECRC, which specialises in the German corporate market, is one of the country's

House price fall House prices in the UK fell by 0.1 per cent in December, according to the monthly Halifax house price index. This compares with a fall of 0.7 per cent in November. The average price paid for a house in the UK in December was £73,124. Halifax expects annual house price increases to slow to 4 per cent over

top five ISPs.

TOURIST HATES

1999 from 6 per cent in 1998.

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Nonesy Kr	13.01	12.07
Portugal Esc	294,64	272.61
S Africa Ro	10.40	9.45
Spain Pta	245.60	226.81
Sweden Kr	14.11	13.01
Switzerland Fr	2.426	2.208
Turkey Log	541961	505938
USA S	1.766	1.623

Mobile phone shares lifted by leap in sales

AN ESTIMATED 25 million mobile phones were sold in the run-up to Christmas, three and half times more than in the same period in 1997, fig-

ures out yesterday revealed. The numbers amazed industry analysts and set off a share-buying spree that put billions of pounds on the value of the mobile phone companies. Analysts are now predicting

that a further five million consumers will buy mobile phones in 1999, and that 39 per cent of Britain's adult popula-tion will be connected by 2000. The vast majority of new connections in last quarter of 1998 were for pre-pay services.

which let people buy mobile phone handsets for about £70, and pay for calls with vouchers instead of receiving bills. The industry also benefited from pre-pay phones being sold by chains such as Tesco and Boots as well as by its usual retail outlets.

Vodafone, the industry leader, yesterday saw its market

933,000

658,000

439,000

2.5 million

NEW CUSTOMERS FOR THE MOBILE PHONE COMPANIES

241,000

149,000

130,000

206,000

value rise by £2.25 billion to £32 billion after reporting nearly a million connections in the fourth quarter. Orange saw its value rise by £1.1 billion to £9.5 billion. Shares in Cable & Wireless, part-owner of One2

cor, which jointly own Cellnet. Alan Lyons, an analyst with ABN Amro, said: The growth is phenomenal. For the fourth quarter of 1998 Vodafone added more subscribers than the entire mobile phone industry added in the third quarter of the same year. The market is heading for saturation at a much faster rate than anyone thought possible. The only question mark is over the quality of growth being achieved."

Cable & Wireless Communication yesterday said that it has won a five-year, £100 million contract to supply net-work capacity to Vodafone

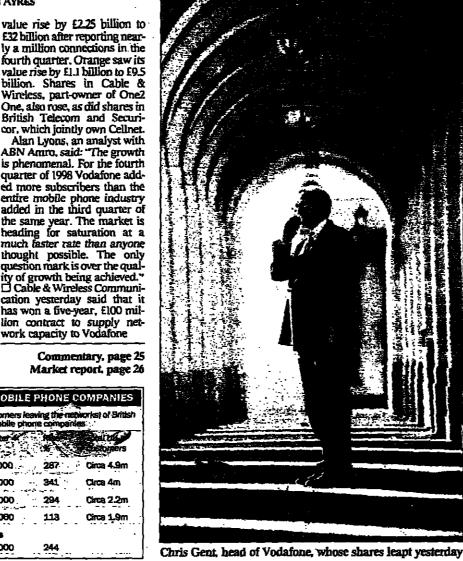
> Commentary, page 25 Market report, page 26

rs leaving the networks) of British

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Circa 1.9m

Circa 4m



Euro hurts Japan and Hong Kong

By SAEED SHAH

THE debut of the euro drove down Asia's two biggest stock yesterday, with shares dropping 3 per cent in Tokyo and more than 2 per cent in Hong Kong.

While the euro appreciated against the dollar on its first day of trading, the yen also

made ground against the greenback, which, according to brokers, hastened a slide in Tokyo stocks on fears that Japanese exports would become more expensive.

Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei 225 average shed 426.28 points to close at 13,415.89, its lowest closing level since October 16. Nick Parsons, chief currency strategist at Paribas in London, said: "The yen was caught between euro strength and dollar weakness. Despite the new currency, it was a normal volatile day's trading for

The dollar dropped to near a three-month low in Asia at 112.79 yen, from Y113.65 in New York last Thursday, be-

fore climbing back to around Y113.60 by late afternoon. Among leading stocks Sony lost Y180 to close at Y8050 (£44), Toyota fell Y115 to Y2955 and Honda retreated Y130 to

The losses in Tokyo dragged Hong Kong down with it. The Hang Seng index fell 2.38 per cent to finish at 9.809.17.

More listed firms go private

By Robert Lea

THE NUMBER of stock market companies taken into private hands leapt last year, and many more public-to-private transactions are in prospect

Institutional antipathy to small companies and a boom in venture capital funds are seen as reasons for the trend. According to figures in a Close Brothers Corporate Finance report, 25 quoted compa-nies, with a total value of £2.7 billion, were taken private in 1998 against only eight, together worth £550 million, in 1997. In 1996, only two listed compa-nies went private.

Last year's boom in such transactions - including the E935 million acquisition of Thorn by Nomura and the £850 million acquisition of Willis Corroon by Kohlberg Kra-vis Roberts — is no flash in the pan. Close says. It believes that such transactions will at least double to 50 this year.

John Llewellyn Lloyd, chief executive of Close's corporate finance team, expects the trend to continue strongly, not least because of a growing bias in the City against small companies. Eighteen of last year's 25 deals were for less than £50

"Smaller companies have unquestionably fallen victim to institutional sizeism", whereby, irrespective of their quality, their share ratings are being depressed by the mere fact that they are small," Mr Llewellyn Lloyd said. "We believe being taken private will prove increasingly popular to certain types of company as a buoyant private equity market is now providing smaller companies with the capital required to build their business far more readily and efficiently than the stock market is cur-

Close says: "Fund managers are increasingly eager to find exits from smaller company investments and in the future we are likely to see a more active role being played by fund man-agers in catalysing such exits."

Firms stay quiet on millennium bug

MANY companies are evading responsibility for any millennium bug disasters by keeping quiet about its potential effects on their business, claims a report by the Consumers' Association. A researcher wrote to 74 companies, posing as a worried customer wanting information about contingency plans and customers' legal rights should things go wrong. Only 52 responded, and not one gave information about consumers' rights in the event of a problem, or details on how to complain.

The report found that many companies used "gobbledegook" such as "leveraged internal applications experts" and concluded that much of the information in replies was "so vague as to be unusable". This may be the intention as companies hope to avoid creating a liability in law. Adam Taylor, a partner at Withers Solicitors, said: "A casual answer to a customer questionnaire could make an unwelcome reappearance in court resulting in legal liability where none existed before."

Finnish minister quits

FINLAND'S Communications Minister resigned yesterday over a scandal surrounding last year's £850 million flotation coms operator. Matti Aura stood down just one hour after the Sonera board dismissed Pekka Vennamo, the chief executive, for his dealings in Sonera shares. Mr Vennamo received more than 46,000 Sonera shares on flotation. By contrast. members of the public were allowed to buy just \$20 shares each. The shares have nearly doubled in value.

PwC income up 20%

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS, the world's largest accounting and consulting group, reported a 20 per cent jump in fee income last year. Reporting consolidated figures out of last summer's merger of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse, the firm said income in the year to June 30 came in at \$15.3 billion (£9.2 billion). The growth was fired by a 41 percent increase in management consulting fees. This compared with an 18 per cent rise in tax income and 10 per cent growth in audit and business advisory services.

Polypipe expands

POLYPIPE, a plastic products maker, has bought Pagette Sanitar Produktions-Vertriebs, a maker of toilet seats and plastic disterns based in Bourop, western Germany, for £9 million in cash. Polypipe will pay 16 million initially and a further 13 million dependent on the achievement of agreed operating profits for 1999 and 2000. For the year ending December 31, 1998, Pagette's operating profit was £510,000 on sales of £11.3 million. It has net assets of ESOO.000. Pagette will become part of Polypipe's bathroom and kitchen products division but will trade under the Pagette name.

Northern Rock disposal

NORTHERN ROCK, the bank, has sold its financial services business to the management for a nominal £1. The bank will continue to receive commission from the independent advisory firm, now called Versteeg Lister & Co, for the next ten years in respect of previously written business. The disposal is in line with Northern Rock's strategy of concentrating on mortgages and savings and will have a minimal impact on income, the bank said yesterday. Northern Rock Financial Services is a three-man operation led by Roger Versieeg.

Polish buy for Kalon

KALON GROUP, the paint and building materials company, is to acquire up to 60 per cent of Polifarb Cieszyn Wrocław, the Polish paints company, for a maximum consideration of £49.2 million. Polifarb, which was created through the merger of two rival paint manufacturers two years ago, is listed on the Warsaw stock exchange and earned pre-tax profits of £10.6 million on turnover of £96.5 million in the year to December 31, 1997. Kalon shares were unchanged at

Berisford acquisition

BERISFORD, the manufacturer of commercial food service equipment and owner of Magnet kitchen stores, has acquired Convotherm Elektrogerate, a German ovenmaker, for up to £13 million. The price is dependent on the results of the company's results for 1998. Convotherm produces "combi-ovens", which combine convection and steam heating, and in 1997 reported an operating profit of DM3.6 million (£1.3 million) on a turnover of DM41 million. Berisford said that it expects the acquisition to be immediately earnings enhancing.

B&B ready to counter conversion campaign

USTOPHER RODRIGUES. Bin chief executive of Bradford & Bingley, will today detail how he intends to combat the proconversion campaign Stephen Major, one of its customers (Anne Ashworth writes). It is possible that the building society, which wishes to retain its mutual status, may temporarily close its doors to new savers to thwart carpetbaggers hoping for a windfall. Mr Major, who describes himself as a "quantity surveyor currently working as a plumber" is seeking election to the Bradford & Bingley board. He has put forward a resolu-

distributing payouts to its 2.5 million members. After checks to ensure the validity of the resolution, it seems likely to be out to the vote at the annual meeting in April. If the resolution is passed, then a formal conversion vote would follow. Observers say that Bradford & Bingley is sufficiently large to become a bank without first merging with another society.

There has been an increase in account openings at the society, as the minimum necessary to qualify for any conversion payout is a relatively low £500.

Commentary, page 25

Standard Life to create 300 jobs

STANDARD LIFE BANK said yesterday that it is to create 300 jobs after its phone-lines were swamped by callers interested in its first mortgage offering (Richard Miles writes).

The banking arm of Europe's largest mutual life insurer said it had received more than 2,500 calls and E30 million worth of applications after opening for mortgage business at 8am. The bank has attracted £2

billion in deposits from 170,000 savers since it was established 18 months ago.

Whistle-blowing on rogue directors rises

and industry is getting a 100 calls a month from whistleblowers informing on regue directors and undischarged bankrupts who are continuing to illegally act as company exec-

The DTI's Insolvency Service said yesterday that the number of allegations concerning banned directors defying court orders had risen by 40 per cent to 1,200 last year. Complaints have led to more than 100 cases where Insolvency Service investigators are looking at having to reprosecute miscreant directors. The news came as the

Kim Howells, the Consumer Affairs Minister, said the number of calls to the Defi-Directors showed that the Govern-

in the past two years.

ment's hardline on "rogues and cheats was supported not only by the public but also by the business community who wanted to see the privilege of limited liability removed from those who used company failure as a vehicle for personal gain".

Basingstoke

Birmingham

Brighouse

Birmingham City

cations in the third quarter of 1998 rose by a third to 347. About 2500 directors have

been disqualified by the courts

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Milan journalist, seeking

A views of typical Italians on the advent of the euro

yesterday, seemed able to find only people who had been unemployed for decades. One Calabrian, who had officially been out out of work for 18 years, realised what was expected. "For people like me with no money to street

like me with no money to start with," he said, "it makes no difference whether you are talking about lire or euros."

In one sense, he was right. Camparis and cappuccinos still

had to be paid for in lire. But prices of euro-denominated shares.

on the Milan exchange rose by 6.4 per cent in a day. Madrid was close behind, adjusting to a

market in which a Portuguese or

Finnish share is barely distin-guishable from a French or Ger-

man one, either for investors

from the big euroland countries or for those from America.

The latter look responsible for a striking upsurge in telecom stocks all over the Continent.

Shares in most national telecom

companies jumped by at least 7 per cent and Deutsche Telekom by twice that as the euro underlined the scope for restructuring. In a second sense, however, the stage Calabrian could hardly have been more approach.

have been more wrong. On open-ing day, the euro ended up rough-

ly 0.5 per cent. If matters had been left to Far East traders, the

welcome mark-up would have

Italians and Spaniards, in par-

WES ROUNDUP tay quiet o

STAY JANUARYS

minister qui

ome up 20%

expands

Rock dispos

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d acquisition





Father and son: Lord Harris of Peckham, left, and Martin Harris

By Sarah Cunningham CHRISTMAS proved to be

appointing trade.

The company, which said before Christmas that it had received a preliminary takeover approach, made no comment on weekend reports that Jurek Piasecki, its chairman and chief executive, had teamed up with Alchemy Partners, the venture capitalists, to offer

185p a share for the group.

Analysts said they still expected Mr Piasecki to emerge as the bidder, but said a fair offer would have to be pitched at between 225p and 250p. The

only strong period of trading was the actual week of Christ-

Lopsided birth of a notion ticular, have paid a high price in jobs to qualify for the euro. Now they want their reward.

> for UK clearing and investment bankers, market administrators, clearing house officers, lawyers,

Dublin. But a strong euro, if it is driven up largely by capital flows, would mean fewer jobs in the powerhouse of the Rhine Valtraders and computer experts. That will not stop Frankfurt and others redoubling their ef-forts to piggyback on London's expertise and steal its business. ley and therefore everywhere Only then should we see what: the European Central Bank is made of Will Wim Duisenberg British job-finders should be as grateful that sterling has shunned the euro as the City and his band of brothers ignore the exchange rate? If so, they will fall out. Or will they see it as a leading indicator to the virgin unexplored territory of a single curomust and investors must be alarmed at being left out.

Checking out a change at B&B

hristopher Rodrigues has never come across as a convincing defender of mutuality. After all, the boss of Bradford & Bingley is hardly a life-long servant of the building society movement, having arrived at the B&B from Thos Cook a couple of years ago after the Germans sent him scuttling from the travel agency. However, once

he settled in to the cheerful life of being a borrower and lender in the land of friendly societies he decided this was rather nice. So every time someone goes "Shouldn't the B&B really be a bank?", Rodrigues comes out with the line that the society wants to remain mutual because that is the best

COMMENTARY

by our City Editor

way it can serve its members.

The trouble is that advocates of mutuality never put the issue to the test. The argument is that you do not need to verify the status quo so the only time that mutuals ever ask their members whether they want to convert to a plc is when someone starts a campaign to convert.

At Nationwide the conversion champion (or, if you prefer, the king of carpetbaggers) was free-lance buttler Michael Hardern. At the B&B it's Stephen Major, a quantity surveyor-cum-plumber whose home at Lisburn in Northern Ireland is about as far from Bingley as one can imagine with-

At the moment Rodrigues is resisting Major but in the next few weeks he may have to face the reality of a members' vote on the issues. This will place him in a tricky situation. Should he gam-ble, like Brian Davis at Nationwide, that he can win a vote and remain mutual? After all, Davis succeeded only by a wafer-thin margin and his position would have been untenable had he lost.

Rodrigues is an ambitious man and realises that a demutalised B&B might be well placed to take advantage of the turmoil in the mortgage market. Unlike some of the other societies being targeted for conversion — such as the Portman or the Yorkshire B&B is large enough to survive and thrive as a public company. It would also be a nice fit

top of the merged business. With some clever footwork, Rodrigues could turn the conversion battle at B&B into a classic

with, say, the Woolwich, and Ro-drigues could easily end at the

"win-win" situation. He can say he thinks B&B would better serve its customers as a mutual. but he is there to serve their will not impose his. So if they vote to pay off their credit card bills through a conversion windfall, then he will bow to their will, however ill thought out.

In debt, sterling can outlast the lot

conomists keep telling gov-ernments to balance their panies and pension funds needing to match future commitments, however, that would be a disaster. They need governments to raise money by issuing safe, "gilt-edged" bonds by virtue of which the insurers can them-selves offer guarantees of future selves offer guarantees of future

value to their policyholders.

Many companies offered guaranteed annuity rates in the 1980s, at rates much higher than those available today. What a pity that they could not or did not choose matching investments to ensure that they could deliver.

Most of those who have bitten the bullet are now trying to quantify the loss and fund it. But they have found that there is no outstanding government debt on any scale dated long enough in the future to cope with liabilities that may only become due 30 years or more ahead.

So the Treasury's Debt Man agement Office is being lobbied to issue 30-year stock, with warrants to renew the investment thereafter. Not unnaturally, the DMO is sceptical, reckoning that its job is to do the best for taxpay-

ers, not insurers. Thinking long might pay because the euro will provide such tough competition for investors money. The UK could outilank its more short-termist euroland rivals and find new markets by issuing 30-bonds on the US model. The only sensible time to start is when long-term interest rates are historically low. Like now.

Mobile economy

FORGET the recession. The reason why retailers had such a bad Christmas is obvious when you walk down the street, take a train or drink in a pub. It assaults your ears with an incessant ring to the tune of Ode To Joy or Whistling Dixie. In the past three months, the mobile phone companies have signed up 2.5 million new subscribers. Most of these are on pre-paid deals and many were given phones as Christmas presents, so soaking up millions that might have been spent elsewhere on the high street.

Regal hotel talks may start consolidation

Lower interest rates will help

euroland's Latin regions mighti-

ly, even if cheaper money is an

an embarrassment in booming

land economy?
The City will be sympathetic.
Even in well-trodden economic territory, an Inflation Report

written in November can look

Thus far, oddly enough, Lon-

don has made a bigger contribu-tion to creating the euro, as op-posed to dreaming it up, than any other capital in Europe. If

the transition in linancial mar-

kets proves as smooth as it

seemed on day one, it will be a tri-umph for the Bank of England,

daft two months later.

else in euroland too.

REGAL HOTEL GROUP is Hotels failing to win support in talks to acquire County for stock market flotations. Hotels, a privately owned rival, in a joint venture deal that could kickstart the longexpected consolidation of the three-star hotel market.

The proposed deal, which is believed to value the 25-strong County chain at about £110 million, comes after the collapse in October of a move by Regal to take itself private with backing from Alchemy, the venture capitalist. Regal, in common with quot-

ed compeniors such as Jarvis, lapse of share prices in the sector amid fears of a recession. vate groups such as County, Principal Hotels and Menzies.

The idea of consolidating the three star market is one that corporate financiers have been investigating for several months, Paul Dukes, a director of Close Brothers Corporate Finance, said: These groups have got nowhere to go individually. They haven't got critical mass or well-known brands, and many don't have a London presence. We think the way forward is to consolidate, weed out the non-core stuff and you've got a decent

County would be "through a

made "without recourse to any equity fundraising".

The private equity firm in

question is Duke Street Capital, which led County's £91 milhon buyout from Queens Moat Houses in March 1997. Duke Street speaks for about 90 per cent of County's equity. Regal is expected to put some cash in the joint venture vehicle, but a source close to the company emphasised that there would be no effect on gearing. Regal is no stranger to joint ventures, its latest be-

ing with Holmes Place, the fit-

Macdonald and Friendly, has provincial hotel group." ness club operator. heen mooted as a candidate. Regal vesterday said that for consolidation after the col- the proposed acquisition of County could be fied up by the end of the month. Negotiajoint venture company in nons are likely be to made easi-which Regal and a private - er by the fact that Charles Holequity firm would be share mes, County's chief executive, completely reshaped mid-holders". Any deal would be is a former Regal executive, market hotel sector."

County, in which £12 million was invested last year, would eventually be absorbed into Regal's new Corus brand.

News of the talks comes after the takeover last month of Lyric Hotels - another former flotation candidate — by Friendly. Both Friendly and Principal are also believed to have looked at County. Edmund Truell, chief execu-

tive of Duke Street, admitted that Regal was not the only operator he had spoken to. "We believe that County has got to grow to prosper," he said. "Equally, we do think that some of the mid-sized hotel groups should get together to leverage economies of scale. It wouldn't be surprising if, by

soars on first day

هيئذر من رييمل

BP AMOCO shares soared on their first day of trading. increasing the value of the merged oil company to £90 billion (Carl Mortished writes). The 21½p gain in the shares to 924½p quickly confirmed the benefits of being the top stock in the FTSE

The rush to buy BP Amoco was seens as testimony to investor confidence in the cost-cutting strategy of Sir John Browne, chief execu-tive, and has allowed the oil company to beat Glaxo Wellcome and BT to the top slot.

BP Amoco's gargantuan presence is curious, given the weakness of the oil price and the market's fascination with telecoms and drug companies. With BP Amoco and Shell accounting for almost a tenth of the index, the oil the market.

BP Amoco Delancey builds 8% interest in Greycoat

By Carl Mortished

GREYCOAT was besieged by takeover speculation vesterday after a group linked to George Soros and British Land revealed that it had acquired almost 8 per cent of the Central London property developer.

Delancey Estates said that it had bought more than 7 million shares in Greycoat while Delancey's parent, the Soros-backed fund Quantum Realty, had picked up 660,000 in Grey-coat stock. Strand Associates, another concert party, owns 150,000 shares in the property company. The total holding amounts to 8.45 million shares or 7.79 per cent of Greycoat.

The stake-building follows news that Wates City of London Properties had acquired 2 again raise questions over the company's future.

Delancey, which is run by James Ritblat, son of John Ritblat, chairman of British Land, is believed to have bought the £11.8 million Greycoat stake from UK Active Value, a fund that two years ago attempted to unseat Greycoat's management by support-ing a hostile bid approach from Moorfields, another

property group.

Quantum Realty recently acquired 66 per cent of Delancey, paying more than £100 million for the interest.

It is Soros's second venture into UK property with the Ritblat family. Five years ago, Quantum invested in a £l billion joint venture with British Land, only to pull out quickly

Tempus, page 26

Tay hits back at investor

THE shareholder trying to effect a boardroom coup at Tay Homes, the northern housebuilder, was yester-day accused of trying to take over the company on the

cheap (Robert Lea writes). Richard Tice, joint chief executive of Sunley Group, the private housebuilder, and a 10 per cent shareholder in Tay, has requisitioned an extraordinary meeting of the company at which he and his own management team would replace the current board.

Norman Stubbs, Tay's chairman, ruled out giving in to Tice. In a statement to shareholders, he said: "The board is concerned that Mr Tice and Sunley are attempting to gain control of the company without paying any premium or indeed makany formal offer for the company." Tempus, page 26

Harris's son quits job at Carpetright

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THE son of Lord Harris of Peckham has quit as an executive of Carpetright, the company chaired by his father. Martin Harris 29, who

joined the company in 1991 and was promoted to the board as marketing director in 1996, was viewed as Lord Harris's heir apparent at Car-John Kitching, managing director, who will take on Mr Harris's board duties said he

had left for personal reasons.
"It is difficult working under your father, particularly a very strong personality like Phil Lord Harris, Mr Kitch-ing said. He emphasised that there had not been any argu-

ments, adding: They are very very close." Mr Harris who owns less than I per cent of the company's shares is to stay on the Carpetright board as a non-ex-cutive, though he is planning to find work elsewhere. "He wants to go off and do his

Carpetright shares closed up 2½p at 226½p.

Goldsmiths' sales lack festive cheer

less than glittering for Goldsmiths, the jewellery retailer, which yesterday reported dis-

shares fell from 169p to 154p. Mr Piasecki said that the

mas. The four weeks to Jamuary 2 saw like-for-like sales down 2.6 per cent on last year. Goldsmiths, which has 154 branches, said sales for the four weeks, including new branches, were up 9.8 per cent. Sales for the 48 weeks to January 2 were 3.3 per cent up, like-for-like. and up 13.7 per cent in total.

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Investors connect with surging telecoms sector

THE telecoms sector has rung in the new year just as it ended

1998 - on a high note. Yesterday it was again connecting perfectly with City investors to produce six of the top ten best performing shares

among blue chips. Leading the way higher was Orange, up 96p, or almost 14 per cent, to 794%p, after addng 512,000 new customers during the final quarter of last year, and taking its total customer base to 2.16 million.

Vodalone had similar good news for shareholders with the price soaring 73p to £10.49 on turnover of 12.72 million shares. It attracted 933,000 new customers during the past quarter - way above even the most optimistic forecast.

Also showing few signs of running out of steam was Colt Telecom, up 561/p to 953p. Telewest added 12p to 1851/2p, and Securicor also put on 34p to 538p. It continues to own 40 per cent of Cellnet, which has added an extra 658,000 to its customer base in the past three months. British Telecom, owns the other 60 per cent of Cellnet, and sported a rise of 3312p to 939p.

The dilemma facing brokers is whether to recommend the sector. The gains seen, so far, have been so spectacular, that there is an argument that the sector is now fully valued.

The rest of the equity mar-ket endured a rollercoaster ride before ending with modest falls. An early mark-up was frittered away as investors became concerned that a strong euro might weaken the pound and prevent a cut in interest rates later this week.

At one stage, the FTSE 100 index fell more than 70 points with not even an opening rise of almost 170 points in the Dow Jones industrial average able to offer comfort. The index eventually closed just 3.2 down at 5,879.4, while the FISE 250 index also slipped

3.7 to 4.851.0. Turnover of 839 million was bolstered by heavy trade in the enlarged British Petroleum after its agreed merger with Amoco. Dealers reported heavy demand with 187 million shares vanced 211/2p to 9241/2p. Brokers such as Merrill Lynch and Salomon Smith Barney have been waxing lyrical about the deal, while Goldman Sachs has been moved to raise its



Victor Rice, chief executive of LucasVarity, who saw shares lifted 7p to 2071/2p on the back of speculative buying

Brothers also rates the shares

its "top pick" in the oil sector. There were plenty of new year share tips doing the rounds including Glaxo Wellcome, up 61p to £21.29, Allied Zurich, 47p dearer at 943/sp. and Racal Electronics, 11/sp firmer at 3485 p.

Speculative buying lifted LncasVarity 7p higher to 2074p on turnover of almost 5 mil-

lion shares. Weekend reports claimed the automotive parts and aerospace group may soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid from US rival TRW Incorporated, In November. LucasVarity failed to transfer the company's domicile to the US after proposals were rejected by shareholders. Fresh selling left Rank Group nursing a fall of 171/2p

FRESH FOOD 3,200

AT FIRST appearance it seemed as if all-out war had broken out among the big food retailing groups after Asda halved the price of some of its leading grocery lines for a limited period.

Safeway finished the session 22%p lower at 279%p, J Sainsbury was off 31%p at 4504p, Tesco 94p at 162p and Morrison Supermar-kets 4p at 275p. Asda, which had initiated the action. managed to consolidate an early 2p rise to finish at

would like to see prices come down, while brokers are taking a more practical

Paul Smiddy, at Credit Lyonnais, the broker, says that this is one price war that owes more to media hype than hard facts. There is not a lot around

at the moment. This is the

right time of the year for cre-ating a good story." He remains upbeat about the sector. "This is not the saw less than 557,163 shares change hands. Brokers said the fall may have been caused by suggestions that an unwanted parcel of shares may be doing the rounds.

Shares of Areadia, the Top Shop and Burton retailer, slumped to a new low with a fall of 8p to 169p. Credit Suisse First Boston, the broker, is reported to have cut its profit forecast for the year by 17 per cent to £50 million. The group lost face after a shock profits warning towards the end of last year after previously indicating it would hit its targets.

Goldsmiths fell 15p to 154p after reporting that business in its jewellery stores during the four weeks to January 2, had failed to live up to expectations. Fresh demand for Pilking-

ton, up 31/2p to 62p, enabled traders to release some spare stock back into the market. Staffware managed to kill off some of the recent speculation in its share price by saying it knew of no reason for the recent rise. The software specialist will be issuing a trading statement before the end of the

40p to 2271/2p. Two seperate sellers totalling 16.140 shares at 17p left Sheffield United nursing a loss of 4p at 19p, making it one of the

biggest fallers on the day.

Keep an eye on Symer

Group, up another 9p to
1829:p. Talk of a bid has enabled the motor distributor to dimb from a low of 1231/sp since the middle of last month. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Bond prices in London were squeezed higher on the back of support for German bunds. But the best levels of the day were not held and shorter-dated issues closed with small losses as investors expressed doubts about the willingness of the MPC to cut rates again when it meets on Thursday.

Stack IOC Ind.

FALLS:

Aligniew...... Micro Focus.

series of the long gilt put on 56p at £119.64 as a total of 18,000 contracts were completed. Among the conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 rose 30p to £154.48, while by contrast, Treasury 7 per cent 2002 retreated 5p to £107.58. NEW YORK: US shares were sharply higher as merger activity and the launch of the midday the Dow Jones indus-

In the futures pit. the March

Tokyu: Hong Kong: Hang Seng Sydney: 5252.35 (+248.97) Singapore: Paris: CAG-40 Zurich: SKA Sen . London: FTSE 350 . FTSE 350 2904.15 (+80.26 _2673.18 (-0.74) _2738.51 (+5.37) _____157.84 FTSE Food interest FTSE Good Secs _164.4 Nov (3.0%) Jps 1967 = 100 _162.0 Nov (2.5%) Jpn 1987 = 180 Abbey Nell Dublin Inv BFS O'seas Inc & Gwith Cap 7912 BFS O'seas Inc & Gwith Inc 11712 Collective Assets Trust Firancial Objects Five Arres Uts Cv Ln 2040 11812 Marley B Nati Bidg Mits Cv Pf month. The price retreated Natural Bulking Mils Piccadilly Growth Ts REXAM B (100) 96 100 Singer & Frd Alle VCT

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mostly in Central London. 1.6142-1.6155 1.5265-1.5275 6.3066-6.3091 1.1810-1.1820 7.7455-7.7465

Caution still needed TRADING in the euro is only one day old and already analysts are saying the new currency could displace the US dollar as the world's pre-

ferred reserve currency. But while predictions in that direction sound premature, it is fair to assume that the euro will continue to strengthen against the dollar in the short term. It also looks likely to strengthen further against sterling, particularly as the eurozone is stouter than Britain economically and because interest rates in this country are on the downward path. In addition, like the new toy at Christmas, the euro is bound to attract attention as the children learn how to play with it.

Assuming the project continues viably and the currency continues to strengthen against, the pound. British companies that export to euroland will benefit. It will give an earnings fillip to the likes of Alliance UniChem, Allied Domecq, British Steel, BBA, BOC, BPB, Compass, GKN, Kingfisher, RMC, and TI Group. A strong euro will act less benignly on euroland exporters such as LVMH. Unilever NV, Royal Durch Petroleum and Bayer.

If a strong curo accurately reflects an economically strong euroland, however, those British companies that stand to benefit from currency advantages may find it harder to compete with European rivals. The extant currency risk in sterling-denominated UK shares also means that shareholders in companies based here could miss out, at least partly, on any merger and acquisition activity.

But the threats posed by failure, as well as unexpected currency movements, mean that investors should not get too carried away with playing euro-forex. Good companies, after all, perform well in almost any environment.

ICI

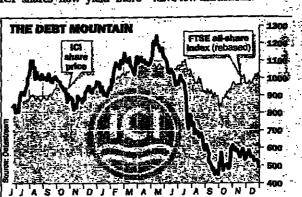
BURYING ICTs industrial chemical history is proving to be a wearisome task. Just when the company appears to have left one big business behind, it grabs back at the ankle like some ghool reaching out from the grave.

In fairness, Tioxide is not a bad business, having recently enioved buoyant prices and good margins. The irritation is that the FIC's ruling will make it more difficult to sell. With obvious buyers now out of the running, interested parties can also play harder to get and that means less money for ICI to spend reducing its debts. In the circumstances, ICI's attempt yesterday to push the flotation card looked more like tactics than a realistic plan. Titanium dioxide is moving later into the cycle and ICI needs to demonstrate it has more than one option, if it is to secure a good price from a potential buyer. Elsewhere, no news is bad news for disposals. In Halochemicals, ICI is being forced to underwrite a future disposal by paying for redundan-cies today. Buyers for the Wilton ethylene cracker are still sitting on their hands.

After yesterday's drubbing, ICI shares now yield more have few attractions.

than 6 per cent on the promised maintained dividend. However, interest cover is below acceptable levels and the payout is certain to be cut when ICI has completed its re-The past should, in due course, be buried, but ICI has

an awful lot of digging to do. In the meantime, the shares



Greycoat

THE very mention of the name George Soros used to be enough to invigorate enthusiasm for the most bombed out industry or asset

class to hysterical levels. But his touch, observed and admitted by the world's most famous Hungarian, is not as golden as it once was. This return to earth may account for the less than enthusiastic market reaction to news that Mr Soros is seriously interested in Greycoat, the property company operating

Mr Soros's interest is chanelled through Delancey Estates. John Ritblat of British Land, and his son James. are also involved, extending a relatively long-term relation-

Shares in Greycoat rose 5p to 177p yesterday. The stock

But the shares still languish 20 per cent beneath stated net sset value.

There should be more to come from Greycoat so buy. The corporate activity enhances the already decent case sugsting that property is an undervalued asset class. However, investors should be careful not to get left holding over-priced babies if Messrs Soros and Rithlat decide to turn their attentions elsewhere.

Tay Homes

OVER the past five years shares in Tay Homes, the northern housebuilder, have fallen from a high of 257p to 10712p. In that time it has underperformed the building sector by about 40 per cent and the all-share index by 60 per cent. Its operating profit derperformed the industry

backing of 27 per cent of the

shares is trying to oust the

serving board. The boardroom struggle is a harmful distraction because it means both the incumbents and the pretenders will be occupied battling for control of the company rather than fighting for new business. However, shareholders should be encouraged that two management teams see something

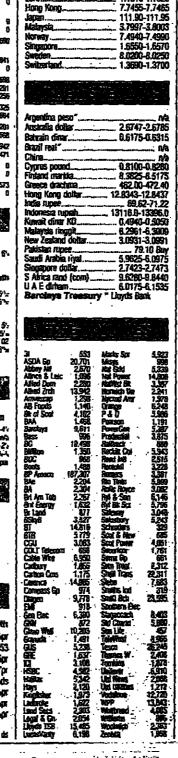
worth fighting over. Both teams talk of seeking mergers with similar-sized companies, which appears to rule out a bid premium benefit from holding the shares. Independent shareholders should demand a premium for change of control, however, There are plenty of other bid candidates among housebuilders and accepting nothing for a change of control would set a

The market has not been excited by the corporate action

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



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هكذامن ولإمل



The euro school of thought that is inevitably wrong

riving through a windswept south Devon just after sight lightened the gloom for a moment. A small country hotel boasted a welcome for an exhaustive list of credit cards and currencies but proclaimed itself a euro-free zone on defiant little placards along the length of its garden wall.

To some, no doubt, this would be seen as an anachro-istic display of Little Englanerism, rendered ridiculous by the epochal happenings on New Year's Day in Frankfurt and even in the City of London. To others - notably the poll published yesterday who said that they would vote "no" in a referendum on joining the single currency — this piece of insubordination served as a useful mental check against a developing air of inevitability that Britain will, begrudgingly but eventually, join.

At the weekend, the press was full of such stuff. One recurring theme was that British business wants to join the euro and will covertly take Britain h, making a referendum of the people a sideshow. The Sunday Times reported that Britain is entering Europe's single currency 'by stealth', as firms prepare to give workers all or part of their salaries in euros." This, the story related, was designed as a perk for employees who could enjoy European interest rates which are currently half those in Britain.

The lure of the euro mortgage is another, increasingly prevalent, strand of the inevitability school of thought. Despite the fact that opinion polls have shown rising popular ope sition to the euro, particularafter the rows over tax har-

NOW Charlie Whelan has

done the decent thing in the

study with his revolver, expect

the inevitable backlash and

lots about how they shouldn't

have sacked the messenger.

only doing his job, quite a de-

cent sort of chap and so on. In furtherance of this. I offer a bit

They are advertising a post

Whitehall. The salary, up to

£63,490, would be an advance

on what you were earning as

Gordon's apparatchik. Char-

lie, plus "you will play a key

better if we convert them

of career guidance.

British borrowers may be able to enjoy interest rates at continental levels without giving away sovereignty

monisation before Christmas, the theory goes that the British, far more hungry for leverage, particularly for house pur-

chase, than continental Europeans, would easily be per-suaded to change their minds if they could take out a mortgage at 3 per cent.

The other tenet of the inevitability school is the simple observation that Britain cannot. must not, be left out. The lead-

er in The Independent on Sunday told us that Britain's and the pound, a "choice between realism and threadbare romanticism". It proclaimed its belief that Britain should join because the euro would work, financially and politically (without saying why). It said — breathtakingly — that join-ing would involve a "fractional loss of sovereignty".

Do any of these "inevitabili-

ty" themes stack up as serious arguments that may, in time. effect a seismic shift of British opinion in favour of the euro? Let us take first the idea that British business is already effectively taking Britain into the euro by stealth. One important point is that business (however many leading chief executives are now, in one way or the other, on new Labour's payroll) is still not the Government. Companies are perfectly within their rights to pay their staff in euros if they want (bearing any exchange-rate risk that this may or may not entail). They are entitled. nay sensible, to be prepared to in-

voice and price in euros if they

have considerable business in

the single market. Multi-

role in the communication of

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dia." so no change there. You will "liaise with No 10

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in-lighting this time, I'm afraid.

For Mike Ricketts, head of

Job comfort

national companies, in particular, already operate in an international environment and the economic policy of the national economy where they happen to be registered is not necessarily the most impor-tant component of their business strategy. It would be a sign of ineffectiveness if British businesses were not taking the euro seriously and prepar-

ing to use it more. Far from worrying that business, by embracing the euro, it could be argued that, the more business adapts to the euro, the less of an issue Britain joining becomes.

Turning to the attractions of cheap euro mortgages (sadly never likely to be as cheap as the Geoffrey Robinson range), this surely cannot be mobilised as a reason for Britain irrevocably ceding control of decisions embracing interest rates, taxa-tion, public spending, employment, social security, pensions

nglishmen may be disproportionately obsessed with owning their castles, and therefore borrowing costs, but this is trivial compared with ceding a far more than "fractional" measure of economic and political sovereignty.

In any case, who is to say that Britain will not, in the years ahead, enjoy interest rates as low as, or nearly as low as. European rates? It appears that, at last, Gordon Brown is preparing to switch get from underlying retail

THE

prices to the European Union standard harmonised index of consumer prices. On this measure, UK inflation stood at 1.4 per cent in November, only a whisker above the EU average. There is no reason why UK short-term interest rates cannot converge with European equivalents as long-term rates have done. It is increasingly evident

that, by virtue of a disinflationary world environment, 1980s reform to the labour market tary framework than membership of the exchange-rate mechanism provided, Britain's inflation behaviour has changed. David Mackie, of JP Morgan, began an end-of-year research note with the resounding phrase "now that the battle against UK inflation has been won", noting that the rate of underlying inflation has been in a range between 2.0 per cent

and 3.5 per cent for six years. With an increasingly surefooted Monetary Policy Com-mittee in place, this record should be maintained. Indeed. Britain - outside Europe - arguably has a better monetary framework than Europe's which will now be in the thrall of a European Central Bank that appears determined to be secretive and, thanks to the Maastricht treaty, is strictly accountable to no electorate.

There is an important footnote to the issue of mortgages. Over the years many a *Times* reader has pointed the finger at thirtysomething economics columnists with large mortgages who assume that everyone in Britain likes ever lower

interest rates. That is not true for savers who are, in fact, far more numerous than borrowers. Pensioners, in particular, are fearful of the low interest rate nirvana because, compared with their counterparts on the Continent, they do not enjoy the cushion of generous pensions to make the loss of in-terest income bearable. If mortgages are an issue for the spin doctors who are campaigning for Labour's next election victory, savers, as well as borrowers, will have to be taken into

🖪 he last "inevitability" argument — that Britain must join because it is being left out — is as absurd as trying to get into a New York night club, knowing that the music is terrible and the drinks exorbitantly priced, simply because rejection by the bouncer on the door is socially unbearable.

The pro-euro camp has failed completely to counter the view - put repeatedly and in depth in these pages - that monetary union is astonishingly risky on economic grounds. for the simple reason that it instinctively thrills to the grand project of political union that will now move centrestage.

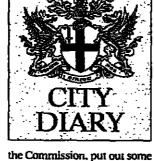
The truth, however, is that the European project leaves most British people cold as it does many on the Continent. Europe's political elites have driven the euro forward despite such disinterest and Mr Blair may try to do the same. He should not, however, get away with the argument that, just because the euro is fact, Britain's entry is inevitable. It is not. The onus is on Mr Blair to make a positive case for the euro or, if enough to stay outside the club.

news at the Department of Trade and Industry, is off to look after the millennium bug. poor soul. Go for it, Charlie. it's right up your street. Let bygones be bygones.

MY THANKS to Cisco, which campaigns tirelessly for the smaller quoted company or SQC and has written to tell me that the long-awaited gov-ernment report is ready. Better still, "the Treasury's Working Group on SQCs has now delivered its report to the Pay-master-General, Geoffrey Rob-inson". Somehow I feel he may no longer be that bothered.

ing behind the euro-launch.

Prophetic CONFIRMATION, if ever we needed it, of the stage manag-Would our profits sound



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Virgin fare ON THE day that we hear of the Newcastle-to-Bristol Vir-

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COLLEAGUE called Guardian Direct's insurance helpline over the holiday and was put on hold. The accompanying music was Let It Snow, sung by Bing Crosby. Very droll, I am sure, if you

are calling from the High-lands with the power out for the third day running and a large fir tree through the car windscreen.

Holy roller AFTER Attila the Hun, Moses is the latest quasi-historical figure to be apointed as management guru. Moses on Leader-

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MARTIN WALLER



Profit without honour unlikely management guru

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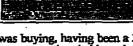
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In conflicts. WPP's manage ment of the JWT and O&M networks have shown that you can own two competing agen-cies without clients walking out. Having three of the biggest ad houses in London is more of a headache, but Omnicom reckons that it might be able to juggle the conflicts without dropping too many cli-ents. More troublesome may be the marketing services businesses that AMV has been col-lecting. It owns Fishburn Hedges, the City PR firm, and Freud Communications, the consumer publicity outfit run by Matthew Freud. Omnicom has a big stake in Financial Dynamics, a City PR firm, and Lynne Franks, the consumer publicity outfit founded by the PR woman who was the model of Absolutely Fabulous. Don't tell me that these firms do not have rivals as clients.

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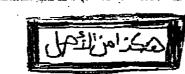
HSBC (X) Midland Bank

Notice to customers

New interest rates for mortgage customers.

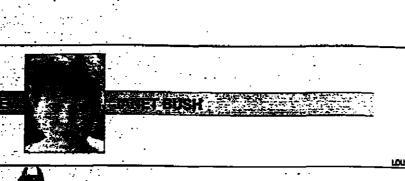
With effect from 4 January 1999 the interest rates for existing mortgage customers are decreased by 0.5% to:

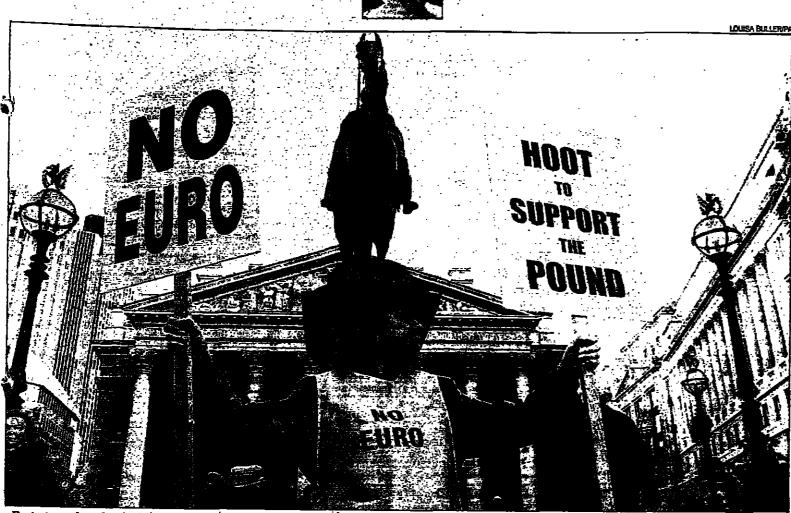
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Mortgage rates for new born		:		
Midland Bank ple HSBC 120 is		iltry, London SC of Midland Ban		





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The euro school of thought that is inevitably wrong

Devon just after Christmas, a jolly sight lightened the gloom for a moment. A small country hotel boasted a welcome for an exhaustive list of credit cards and currencies but proclaimed itself a euro-free zone on defiant little placards along the peans, would easily be perlength of its garden wall.

To some, no doubt, this would be seen as an anachroastic display of Little Englanrism, rendered ridiculous a by the epochal happenings on Servation that Britain cannot, New Year's Day in Frankfurt must not be left out. The leadand even in the City of Londrum The Independent on Sundon. To others - notably the 94 per cent of Sun readers in a poli published yesterday who said that they would vote "no" in a referendum on joining the single currency - this piece of insubordination served as a join because the euro would useful mental check against a developing air of inevitability that Britain will, begrudgingly

but eventually, join.

At the weekend, the press was full of such stuff. One recurring theme was that British. business wants to join the euro and will coverily take Britain making a referendum of the people a sideshow. The Sunday Times reported that "Britain is entering Europe's single currency by stealth, as firms prepare to give workers all or part of their salaries in curos." This, the story related, was designed as a perk for employees who could enjoy European interest rates which are

currently half those in Britain. The lure of the euro mort-gage is another, increasingly prevalent, strand of the inevitability school of thought. Despite the fact that opinion polls have shown rising popular op-resition to the euro, particular-have considerable business in fite Government's inflation tar-dafter the rows over tax har-the single market. Multi-get from underlying retail

British borrowers may be able to enjoy interest rates at continental levels without giving away sovereignty

monisation before Christmas, the theory goes that the Brit-ish, far more hungry for lever-age, particularly for house purchase, than continental Eurosuaded to change their minds if they could take out a mortgage at 3 per cent.

The other terret of the inevitability school is the simple obchoice was between the euro and the pound, a "choice between realism and threadbare romanticism". It proclaimed its belief that Britain should work, financially and politically (without saying why). It said — breathtakingly — that join-

ing would involve a "fraction-al loss of sovereignty". Do any of these "inevitability" themes stack up as serious arguments that may, in time, effect a seismic shift of British opinion in favour of the euro? Let us take first the idea that British business is already effectively taking Britain into the euro by stealth. One important point is that business (however many leading chief executives are now, in one way or the other, on new Labour's. payroll) is still not the Govern-ment. Companies are perfectly within their rights to pay their staff in curos if they want (bearing any exchange-rate risk that this may or may not entail. They are entitled, nay sensible, to be prepared to in-

voice and price in euros if they have considerable business in

government policy to the me-

ments on cross-government presentation of policy, so less

in-fighting this time. I'm

news at the Department of Trade and industry, is off to

look after the millennium bug,

poor soul. Go for it, Charlie,

it's right up your street. Let by-

For Mike Ricketts, head of

national companies, in particular, already operate in an international environment and the economic policy of the national economy where they happen to be registered is not necessarily the most important component of their business strategy. It would be a sign of ineffectiveness if British businesses were not taking the curo seriously and prepar-

ing to use it more. Far from worrying that busiday told us that Britain's ness, by embracing the euro, will lead the way for rest of us. it could be argued that, the more business adapts to the euro, the less of an issue Britain joining becomes.

Turning to the attractions of cheap euro mortgages (sadly never likely to be as cheap as the Geoffrey Robinson range), this surely cannot be mobilised as a reason for Britain irrevocably ceding control of decisions embracing interest rates, taxation, public spending, employment, social security, pensions and so on:

nglishmen may be disproportionately obsessed with owning their castles, and therefore borrowing costs, but this is trivial compared with ceding a far more than "frac-tional" measure of economic and political sovereignty. In any case, who is to say that Britain will not, in the years ahead, enjoy interest rates as low as, or nearly as low as. European rates? It appears that, at last, Gordon Brown is preparing to switch

prices to the European Union standard harmonised index of consumer prices. On this measure, UK inflation stood at 1.4 per cent in November, only a whisker above the EU average. There is no reason why UK short-term interest rates cannot converge with European equivalents as long-term rates have done. It is increasingly evident that, by virtue of a disinflation-

ary world environment, 1980s reform to the labour market and a far more credible monetary framework than membership of the exchange-rate mechanism provided, Britain's inflation behaviour has changed. David Mackie, of JP Morgan, began an end-of-year research note with the resounding phrase "now that the battle against UK inflation has been won", noting that the rate of underlying inflation has been in a range between 20 per cent and 3.5 per cent for six years.

With an increasingly surefooted Monetary Policy Committee in place, this record should be maintained. Indeed, Britain - outside Europe - arguably has a better monetary framework than Europe's which will now be in the thrall of a European Central Bank that appears determined to be secretive and, thanks to the Maastricht treaty, is strictly accountable to no electorate.

There is an important footnote to the issue of mortgages. Over the years many a Times reader has pointed the finger at thirtysomething economics columnists with large mortgages who assume that everyone in Britain likes ever lower

for savers who are, in fact, far more numerous than borrowers. Pensioners, in particular, are fearful of the low interest rate nirvana because, compared with their counterparts on the Continent, they do not enjoy the cushion of generous pensions to make the loss of interest income bearable. If mortgages are an issue for the spin doctors who are campaigning for Labour's next election victory, savers, as well as borrowers, will have to be taken into

interest rates. That is not true

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he last "inevitability" argument — that Britain must join because it is being left out — is as absurd as trying to get into a New York night club, knowing that the music is terrible and the drinks exorbitantly priced, simply because rejection by the bouncer on the door is socially unbearable.

The pro-euro camp has failed completely to counter the view - put repeatedly and in depth in these pages - that monetary union is astonishingly risky on economic grounds, for the simple reason that it instinctively thrills to the grand project of political union that will now move centrestage.

The truth, however, is that the European project leaves most British people cold as it does many on the Continent. Europe's political elites have driven the euro forward despite such disinterest and Mr Blair may try to do the same. He should not, however, get away with the argument that, just be-cause the euro is fact. Britain's entry is inevitable. It is not. The onus is on Mr Blair to make a positive case for the euro or, if he cannot, be Cool Britannia enough to stay outside the club.

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MARKET LEADER

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	Old	New	
	rate % p.a.	rate % p.a.	APR%
Home Loan Rate	8.20	7.70	7.9
Home Improvement Loan Rate Loans sanctioned before 26.4.89	10.20	9.70	10.0
House Mortgage Rate	8.20	7.70	7.9

Mortgage rates for new borrowers were effective from 22 December 1998 Midland Bank plc, 27-32 Poolity, London EC2P 2BX.

HSBC is the brand of Midland Bank plc



NOW Chartie Whelan has role in the communication of done the decent thing in the study with his revolver, expect the inevitable backlash and lots about how they shouldn't have sacked the messenger. only doing his job. quite a decent sort of chap and so on. Infurtherance of this, I offer a bit afraid. of career guidance.

A Whitehall. The salary, up to E63.490, would be an advance on what you were earning as Gordon's apparatchik, Charlie. plus "you will play a key



Would our profits sound

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Prophetic

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By RODNEY HOBSON

A RIVAL to existing small business organisations, such as the Federation of Small Businesses, the Forum of Private Business and the Small Business Bureau, has been set up by a management expert Jim Barrington, based on Mersey-

side, says he formed the Association for Small Businesses to offer the commercial benefits that he says he could not find in other small business organisations. However, he wants to build networks with the other bodies for mutual advantage.

Mr Barrington has spent most of

his working life in business, including spells with training and enter-prise councils and Business Links. He is now managing director of the Barrington Group, a Merseyside

management consultancy.

Mr Barrington said that, when he was seeking ways in which small enterprises could be helped, he found that Business Links worked for well-established companies and that existing business bodies concen-trated on lobbying, surveys and other services.

"I wanted an organisation that would save me money or help me to find a contract," he said.

He approached large companies and found they wanted to introduce themselves to small businesses and would give good discounts to win their custom. So he set up the association to obtain bargaining power for small businesses. "We act as an introduction agency or a corporate buyer," said Mr Barrington.

Insurance companies discount their policies. Dun & Bradstreet, the business information company. offers a 17 per cent reduction and the Royal Mail has given sponsorship and provides training on the economic use of postal services.

The other organisations have their own strengths," said Mr Barrington, "so I want to form alliances with them and network through them. I want us all to work together.'

The association has a free newsletter and business guide, and is to set up a website to raise awareness. Mr Barrington used his own mon-

ey to start the association, but has introduced annual membership fees of £119.99 for small businesses and £349.99 for large companies. Businesses that recruit members receive a percentage of their subscription. Inquiries: 0151-522 0874.

Giftware firm learns to make the most of colleges' talent

Sally Watts views

a family enterprise with a methodical approach to growth

ifts galore, from ceramics and glassware to sweat-shirts and baseball caps. helped to make the Christmas just gone the best so far for Custom Print Merchandise (CPM), a small Welsh family business that began in 2,000 square feet of premises in Cardiff in 1986.

For most of this time, the business has relied just on T-shirts and sweatshirts, printed in-house. However, in the past four years, draw-ing on the skills of young gradu-ates, a student and academic departments, it has taken off, expandng both markets and range.

"A company can only grow by extending its product range — retail-ers prefer this as it's cost-effective," says Paul Dinnick, managing director of CPM, who founded the business with his wife, Mary, now financial controller, and sister, Cynthia, her assistant. "Today we are probably the only company in Britain that is designing, printing and decorating textiles, ceramics and glassware in-house. This is why we

targeted exports." After establishing CPM, Mr Dinnick — whose background is in marketing — decided that it was time to expand and that, to do so, he needed to establish three middle-tier roles, including a de-sign studio manager and a market-



Paul Dinnick with T-shirts produced by his CPM giftware business, whose exports have grown rapidly

ing executive "to put flesh on the skeleton".

However, he did not act instantly. Preferring to move forward in a planned, evenly paced way". he applied to take on graduates, or Associates, through the Teaching Company Directorate (TCD). These, attached to the University of Central England (UCE), worked with the backing of Michael Vernon, head of textiles, and his department, which he says has benefited hugely from the knowledge and experience

One Associate. Emma Wilson, carried out a business review, set up the nucleus of a marketing strategy, planned a brochure and researched potential export outlets. Another, Paul Mayfield, helped to introduce computer-aided design and four-colour process separation

With UCE's help, Mr Dinnick invested £35,000 in a design studio equipped with four Apple Macintosh computers, scanners and printers. He took on a design manager, Barry Barnfield, previously in silk-screen printing, and Julie Worrell, with a publishing background, as marketing executive.

The business is also benefiting from a much newer TCD scheme. College Business Partnerships, which links companies with colleges of further and higher education. Erwan Stephens, who has an Ordinary National Diploma in engineering and is working on day release for the Higher at Barry College, is replacing CPM's card index system with computerised management inwith computerised management information for production planning. delivery dates and rush orders This will lead to the third key role: production planning manager.

All this is paying off. Turnover has more than doubled to £2.8 million. The size of premises has increased to 20,000 square feet after several moves. Staff have increased from 17 to 50, plus some 30 outworkers sewing and packing. Paul Din-nick's brother. Ralph, has joined CPM as production manager and Paul's son. Martin, who started at the bottom seven years ago, is now

Exporting began to grow rapidly in 1998, partly as a result of exhibiting at Birmingham's export fairs. In a separate initiative, CPM won a contract to supply giftshops on a US fleet of cruise ships.

As well as duty-free shops and tourist attractions, the home market includes Liberty. Hamleys. Bhs, and Edinburgh Woollen Mills Sorvenirs will be on sale at the rugby World Cup in Cardiff

Paul Dinnick says: "We're creating our own niche in the market. We're also looking at Investors in People, to develop staff skills for meeting the needs of tomorrow."

☐ CPM: 01222 346434;

Endorsed by the British Chambers

of Commerce, The Small Business of Commerce, the statut basiness Guide to IT has been produced by Griffin, the invoice finance arm of Midland Bank. The free booklet explains jargon and includes practical advice on what to look for when investing in new technology. Call 0800 343435.

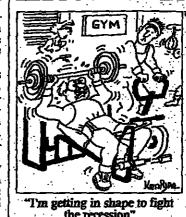
Barclays Bank says it opened 30,000 euro accounts ahead of the launch of the single European currency on January !.

A second edition of the Com-plete Idior's Guide to the Internet has been published by Prentice Hall after the first edition sold 12,000 copies. Information on new online services and creating a Web page is updated. Price £18.49.

☐ Europe's first Master of Business Administration degree for owner-managers, entrepreneurs and professionals in small and medium-sized firms begins at Man-chester Business School this month. The course, supported by KPMG, the accountant, has specialist options such as managing a family business. Inquiries 0161-275 6537.

 A service to help solicitors firms
 to examine their financial performance has been introduced by the UK 200 Group of Chartered Accountants, whose members have more than 180,000 clients, including many small and medium-sized professional practices. Inquiries: 01252 333511.

☐ For the first time in more than five years more firms responding to the NatWest SBRT Quarterly Survey of Small Business in Britain reported a downturn in annual sales rather than a rise. Only 37 per cent of small firms said that their sales turnover was higher in the third quarter of 1998 than it had been in the same period in 1997, whereas 43 per cent said sales were lower.



BY SALLY WATTS

INSTEAD of believing — as many in Government privately do - that small firms are irrational, even stupid, not to train their workers. Government should stop applying "large firm solutions" to small enterprises and offer

their workers direct training opportunities.

David Storey, director of Warwick Business School's centre for SMEs, believes it is just as rational for smaller firms not to train as it is for larger firms to do so: training represents investment for the future, whereas smaller enterprises - with short-term horizons and limited resources - need immediate solutions to immediate problems.

Professor Storey was speaking in Stockholm, where he received an award of \$50,000

Storey calls for state aid for training at SMEs

(£30,000) for small business research. This is seen as the equivalent of the Nobel Prize for small business and has never before been won by anyone from outside the US.

Individual workers who receive training, he said, are more likely to obtain employ-ment and, once employed, to earn more. This benefits both the workers and the State, but it is not clear that small firms that train more perform better. "It seems reasonable that they should be compensated for any costs they incur in training their workers." In a business with an owner and a single

manager, Professor Storey suggested that the owner is unlikely to fund the manager's training, as the latter can only gain promotion by changing jobs - at the owner's expense.

Entrepreneurs, he went on, learn by doing. solving actual problems as they occur. "Entrepreneurs and managers in small businesses.

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appear to learn most effectively in a highly experiential manner. They are unlikely to learn through formal classes and instead require bite-sized chunk' answers to real problems which they are currently experiencing."

Professor Storey also urged governments to collate their vast amounts of information, of value to small firms, and to create "information intermediaries" whether statesubsidised or not, which would draw on data bases to handle questions on tax, legislation and such like. Owners need immediate answers, lacking time to absorb massive detail.

His final recommendation was for a new approach to business failure, such as exists in the US, which regards failure as "a chance event" that provides experience and can lead

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closing date for expressions of interest is 22nd January 2999.

TENDERS AND CONTRACTS

THE GATEWAY TO WORK

Private/Voluntary Sector Led Pilots The Government has announced the piloting of the Single Work Focused Gateway

(SWFG) to the benefits system for all working age claimants. A radical DEE-DSS

initiative to help people back into work rather than writing them off to life on benefit,

the SWFG will provide a streamlined and efficient system in which there is a single

point of access to welfare, and in which everyone who has the potential to work is

Wishing to tap into the expertise, innovation and efficiency that the private and voluntary sectors can offer, the Government is inviting bids, led by private and/or

Successful applicants will be expected to work in partnership with the Benefits Agency,

Employment Service, local authorities and other relevant bodies to ensure a seamless

These pilots will start in November 1999. Contracts will be for up to three years with

Private/voluntary sector organisations which are interested in leading any of these

pilots, or would like to find out more, are invited to express their interest now. The

A briefing pack will be despatched on request to interested organisations. This will provide further information about the pilots, details of the information events and of

the procurement process. Information events will be held from mid-January 1999,

when organisations can find out more, talk to others about what might be involved

and explore how they may wish to work with each other collaboratively to deliver

The briefing pack also sets out the information which must be submitted by

organisations interested in proceeding in the competition, against which a shortlist will be established. The information requested in the briefing pack must be returned

To find out more and/or request a briefing pack, please contact Helen Carey at the

Single Work Focused Gateway Project, Level 4 Mayfield Court, 56 West Street

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Franchise Exhibition The Times & The Sunday Times will be having a Franchise Feature on Sunday 31st January and Tuesday 2nd February.

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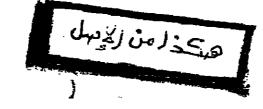
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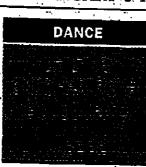


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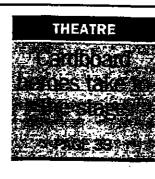
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Cast out of sad memory

GALLERIES: Richard Cork interprets the haunting

shapes and shadows that dominate new London exhibitions by Rachel Whiteread and Kerry Stewart

ooking at the year ahead I am relieved to predict that Rachel Whiteread's Holocaust Memorial will be among the outstanding art events. For too long the project looked doorned. Endlessly postponed and mired in the murky strife of Austrian politics, her monumental sculpture is now scheduled for unveiling in the late autumn. I hope to be there to see how this steel and concrete structure relates to its sensitive context: the Judenplatz in Vienna, the ancient heart of the city's beleaguered Jewish community.

Maquettes and photomon-

tages of the Memorial in situ show an austere, sealed-up-building, its rigidly ordered sides resembling library walls facing outwards. But Whiteread's latest exhibition, her first at the Anthony d'Offay Gallery, brings the full-scale physical impact of the Memori-

Walking into the largest gal-lery, we see three double-sided bookshelves in white plaster. Pacing down the corridors between them is akin to entering the Holocaust Memorial and finding, with a shock, that the shelves within have been shorn of the books that once

Not that Whiteread stresses the emotive charge of the

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yell pittoff Sunday Times stripped shelves. She simply cast Untitled (Book Corridors) in negative, making the spaces between each shelf jut out as solid presences. But the void where the books should sit has the capacity to unsettle, mak-ing us worder why they seem

to have been destroyed. Memories are triggered of the book burnings undertaken

One is

reminded of the Nazis' book burnings?

by the Nazis, who knew only too well how to crase history. Despite everything achieved by computer technology and the Internet in recent years, books are still the prime repository of knowledge, and the sight of Whiteread's denuded shelves is bound in provoke an indignant sense of loss. Books can also be maimate

objects, especially when found

in homes where they are re-

ferred to all the time. In this respect Untitled (Book Corridors) relates to Whiteread's consistent preoccupation with domestic forms. Ever since she found her identity as an artist by casting a wardrobe, mak-ing it into a place redolent of both privacy and fear, this re-markably singlemmed sculptor has stayed close to the household environment.

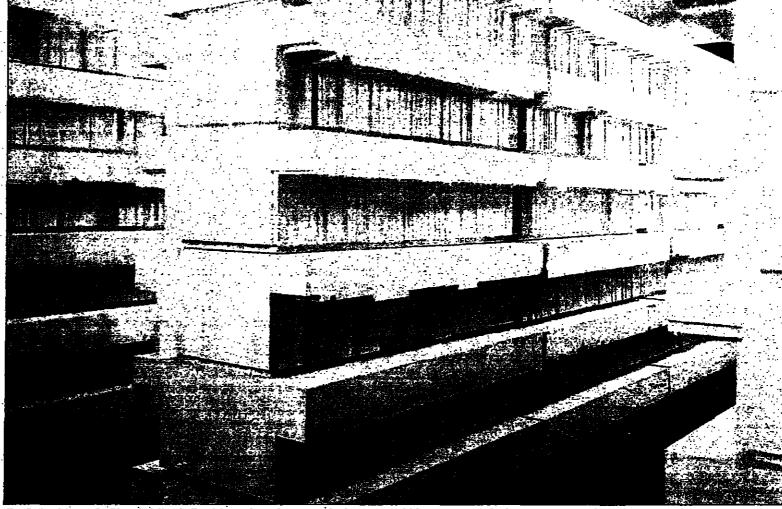
The most seductive exhibit in her impressive d'Offay show, Untitled (Piction), is a smaller work where three bare shelves project from the wall like a relief. This time, Whiteread allows the missing books to leave discreet stains of bleached yellow, red, green and blue on the plaster. They soften what would otherwise be a formidably severe piece, and disclose her subdued yet lyrical feeling for colour.

Throughout the rest of the survey, she reins in sensious-

ness and opts instead for reticence and pallor. The whiteness of the tripartite Untitled (Elongated Plinths) accentuates the funereal aspect of these low-lying slabs. They call to mind the sterile surfaces where corpses might be laid out for clinical examination. Unlike the brittle and pil-laged Book Corridors, though, all three plints are cast in plastic and appear inviolate.

But this bland, pristine quality

Winning Computers



Rachel Whiteread's Untitled (Book Corridors): the void where the books should be prompts onlookers to wonder why they seem to have been destroyed

does not make them reassuring. They are as bound up with mortality as Whiteread's earlier Bath sculptures, and prove that her imagination is still strongly affected by a graveyard melancholy. She never allows this obses-

sion to become mawkish or self-indulgent, however. The prevailing emphasis in the

show rests on emotional con trol, and Whiteread's characteristic rigour is seen at its toughest in Untitled (Nine Tables). The cast concrete employed here reminded me of the equally grey substance she used in House, the most inexplicable and mourned victim of the British weakness for vandalising contemporary art.

At first, it would be easy to see this new sculpture as nine fragments from the bulldozed into an identical form as comnact as a heavy suitcase. In reality, they are cast from the empty spaces underneath stacking tables, the kind of nondescript furniture found in any large institution.

But by the time Whiteread has carried out her deceptively straightforward strategy these banal, utilitarian objects have been transformed into strangely unnerving presences. They rest on the floor in ranks, like anonymous tombs in a cemetery. Their origins as tables can only be guessed at, for Whiteread has brought about a thoroughgoing, infinitely enigmatic metamorphosis.

he glacial feeling of death running through this show also pervades the most memorable of Kerry Stewart's exhibits at the Stephen Friedman Gallery. The largest room is inhabited by one sculpture. Peering into the darkened space, we gradually make out the spectral shape of a car. It has been covered in snow, and the coat of frozen particles threatens to obliterate all the remaining identifiable features.

Since the window-panes are smothered, no one can tell whether the driver or passengers remain inside. But the possibility of their incarceration imensifies when we realise that the wheels are paralysed in a piled-up snowdrift. The vehicle seems long since abandoned, and yet the misgivings about continued human occupancy are strengthened by the eeriest aspect of the sculpture: the headlights obsti-

Kerry Stewart's icy "car" sculpture: hinting at the disturbing possibility of incarceration nately shining through their

clogged glass shields. Partially obscured, they nevertheless make the car seem even more of a lethal prison cell than before. Although we can walk right round this sculpture, deftly made from acrylic-painted fibreglass, it resembles in the end a

traumatic still from a frustrating, nightmarish movie by the Coen brothers or David Lynch. The human figure, so often the basis of this young Scottish sculptor's earlier work, is no more visible in her other large exhibit. shows ⁹ Stewart gives scant indication of who

or what might be lurking beneath Untitled (Hairy Being). The title hints Untitled that some animate force waits inside this strange, surreal mass of straw-coloured raffia rising several feet in the air. On one level, it smacks of

the farmyard; on another, a cascade of long, straggly hair. But neither animal nor tramp can be detected underneath the dishevelled tendrils. Like many of Stewart's previous sculptures, the phantasmic quality of this apparition seems to belong to some child-hood dreamworld. She is undoubtedly fascinated by the notion of viewing adult life through children's eyes, and a

diary-like confession inscribed above the door leading to Untitled ⁶ A glacial (Hairy Being) is written in an oddly unformed hand: "I feeling of was living a sad life, always worried and anxious. with many fears. One day I decided pervades to look up at the ceiling. Maybe it was the newness or the disorientation. but the lower down things couldn't get

up that high." The words' curious blend of naivety and wry humour typifies Stewart's approach. Sadness is offset by self-mocking awareness of ab-surdity, and in this respect Untitled (Hairy Being) is a preposterous comic conceit. Its air of concealment, though, hints at a darker, more furtive and helpless meaning as well - an interpretation made more plausible when we encounter the third sculpture on view.

Crouching on the floor in a foctal position. Follower finally allows the human form to be revealed. The barefoot young woman appears casual at first. The longer we look at her, though, the more wan she becomes. With knees drawn up tightly against her chest, and arms enclosing them in a defensive lock, she seems hunched rather than assured.

The title of the sculpture implies that she is listening to a leader's speech. But the mes-sage makes her feel oppressed. not enlightened. Everything about the stance she adopts. and her stunned facial expression, suggests that she is in thrall to a domineering, perhaps ruthless, cult figurehead.

Stewart's starting-point, ap-parently, was footage of the fol-lowers who blindly obeyed Charles Manson's murderous imperatives. So when this sculpture casts aside concealment at last, we only find someone incapable of releasing herself from an entrapment as cruel, in its psychological tyranny, as the snow-engulfed car.

 Rachel Whiteread at Anthony d'Offay Gallery, 21 & 24 Dering St. London WI (0171-499 4100) to Jan 15; Kerry Stewart at Stephen Friedman Gallery, 25-28 Old Burling-ton St, WI (0171-494 1434) to Jan 23

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rthur Hughes (1832-1915) was A just too young to be part of the original Pre-Raphaelite Brotherjust too young to be part of the hood in 1848, but he knew about the activities of such painting "brothers" as Rossetti, Millais and Holman Hunt almost immediately, being then at the Royal Academy Schools from which they had all recently graduated. By 1850 he was familiar with their journal The Germ, and by 1852 he had met Madox

Brown, Rossetti and Millais. From the evidence of the earliest paintings in the revelatory show of his work at the Museum of Richmond, he had begun painting in a Pre-Raphaelite manner even earlier: The Young Poet, supposed to be a self-portrait, dates from 1849, and though it remains unfinished a fully developed Pre-Raphaelite style of minute particularity is already visible in

the central reclining figure. When Hughes died shortly after the start of the First World War, several obtauarists dubbed him "the last Pre-Raphaelite". This was not literally true, since one of the original seven, Dante Gabriel Rossetti's writer brother William Michael, was still alive, but in a deeper

sense it was true, and had been for decades. After all, such of the rest as had not died young had mostly given up the strict and particular reading of Pre-Rap-haelite philosophy quite early in their ar-tistic development. Not Hughes, however: once he had established his style he continued in it without softening the edges or blurring the vision. The very latest painting in the show. Caedmon's Awak-

death

both

AROUND THE GALLERIES

ening, finished in 1914, is at once recognisable as from the same hand as The Young Poet, even 65 years later.

Hughes's draughtsmanship is always exquisite, but what particularly marks him out is the delicacy and tenderness of his colours. He took great delight in a particular narrow range of greens and violets, the definitive examples being the Tate's April Love and the Ashmolean's Home from Sea, no doubt his two most famous paintings. Neither of these is in the Richmond show, which has opted for less familiar works, such as the

Tate's That Was a Piedmontese, one of Hughes's works most admired by Ruskin, and the Eve of St Agnes triotych, both of which date from the crucial

1850s and early 1860s. All of these can be found reproduced, in rather too ruddy hues, in Leonard Roberts's invaluable, long looked-for caralogue raisonné, the appearance of which (Antique Collectors' Club, £45) seems to be the cue for the show. It is in Richmond because of a local connection: Hughes lived and worked for many years on Kew Green, and is buried in Richmond Cemetery. But then so often these days some anecdoral reason of the sort is what determines whether fine artists of the second grade get any kind of showing at all. No one is going to rediscover Hughes as a towering figure, but the relative neglect into which he has fallen is certainly not deserved, as this exhibition makes abundantly clear.

 Museum of Richmond, Old Town Hall, Whiteleer Avenue, Richmond, Surrey (0181-332 1141). Tues-Sat Ham-Spm, until farch 23. Museum admission £2. concs £1.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

LONDON

tonight, 7pm. 👸

THE TEMPEST: David Calder is

ient in Adrien Noble's colourlui

ALEGRIA: The breathtakingly excito Cirque du Soleil returns lo London for

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

the fourth successive year with further prodigious leads of contonions, light-rope walking.

PLG YOUNG ARTISTS: The Dad Lane Group ushers in the New Year with its annual showcase of fresh musical talents. Tonight (6pm) the Market Edsemble contemps, built

Marais Ensemble performs Judith Weir and Ligest, followed at 7.30pm

Purcell Room (0171-960 4242). PIANO CLASSICS: James Lianes

Plano CLASSICS: James Laney brings his elevet truch and dynami shading to the evening 's all-Schub programme featuring Liszt's amangament of Gue Nacht and Estamung from Winterrese, Wigmore Hall (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7:30pm. [6]

are brought to life by the Glann Miller Orchestra and the Jiving Lindy Hoppers in tonight's concert which rockles such classic numbers as Wornlight Serenador.

includes such classic numbers as Moonight Serenade. Shing of Peers and Little Brown Jug. Colle Anthony and Jan Messeder provide vocals backed by the Moonlight Serenader. Bridgewater Hatt (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm.

THE SNOWMAN: The much-loved

ock (0171-863 8222).

THE KING AND I: Whistle a happy

tune with Phil Willmott's Steem Factory production of the leelgood

ARABIAN NEGHTS: All Baba, Sinbed

CINDERIELLA: Neil Bertlett and the Shockheaded Peter team stage a seriously wonderful version of Angela

Technically dazzling, but sabotaged by a wootly script. With Annabelia Sciorra, Cuba Gooding Jr and Max Von Sydow. Director, Vincent Ward.

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U): Splandid angration, but there's not much for kiddles in the biblical story of

Moses leading the Israelities to the promised land. Voice latenta include Val Kärner and Ralph Fiennes.

BASE: PIG IN THE CRY (U): Everyone's tavourte talking pig taces the torments of the hostel city. Grotesque, maguided sequel to the hit film With Magda Szubanski.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG):

Compressed and pertunctory version of Brian Friel's play about five spinster

sisters in 1930s Donegat With May Streep, Catherine McCormack and Kathy Burke, director, Pat O'Cormo

Carter's panto. Magic provided by

Lyric (0181-741 8701/2311). (3)

and lesser known tales adapted an directed by Dominic Cooke for the

ers and Hemm

BAC (0171-223 2223). 🖏

Young Vic (0171-928 6383).

Raymond Briggs cheracters soar over the audience in Bill Alexander's

ELSEWHERE

tonight, 7.45pm. [5]

fire-eating and clowning. Albert Hall (0171-589 8212). Opens

ARTS

Roald Dahl premiere

OPERA

More

Sugar

please

t must have looked good
on paper: a children's opera based upon Roaid
y satirical tale Fautastic
r, with designs by Ger
fe, to be composed by
licker: Picker's first operation of the compose
us work had been
the symphony or
vas a natural for
y yet many fine
tumbled when
for children
as not creating works for children.

Dahl's story, as played out at the Dorothy Chandler Pavil ion, is vivid and engaging: a trio of evil farmers vow to root



out the dashing Fox and his family, using terrifying female farm machines, but our hero. with the aid of the other animals of the forest, outfores

them. The trick to writing for children is to capture their fancy without condescending to them by ladling on sugar. Yet Picker's score, written in an arid, one-size-fits-all modernism, could use a dash of sweetening. The dynamism and narrative thrust of Emmeline is nowhere apparent in the new score, and he imposes little or no stylistic distinction between the nice animals and the wicked farmers. Apart from a lovely children's chorus of tree sprites, and a brash aria for

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the earth-digging machine, there isn't a melody in sight. There were some excellent performances, particularly by Gerald Finley in the name part, and by Jamie Offenbach as the demonic, rake-thin Farmer Bean. Josepha Gayer made the most of her turn as the vampish Rita the Rat, but Picker's music for her manages to be at once jagged and shapeless. The libretto, by Donald Sturrock (formerly a producer and director for the BBC), makes the mistake of attempting to "enliven" Dahl's lively story with contemporary

its a different world from that of the drama. Los Angeles Opera mounted a lavish enough production of Scarfe's exuberant, witty designs, but my date for the evening, aged II, pronounced the piece "kind of boring — it



An impressive dancer, but can he act? Carlos Acosta, the Royal Ballet's new Cuban star, makes his debut as Colas in Ashton's La Fille mal gardée

Man in the mirror

ven before five male as a principal dancer earlier dancers suddenly announced they were leaving mid-season. the Royal Ballet knew it had a problem with men. It had already lost two of its biggest stars when Tetsuya Kumakawa flew the nest (to spread his wings with his own Japanesebacked ensemble) and Irek Mukhamedov reached the end of his career as a full-time member of the company (he is now billed as a guest artist). And with suitable male partners in short supply, the Royal was relying on a foreign visi-

tor, the Kirov's Igor Zelensky, to partner Darcey Bussell. So a lot depends on the company's newest male recruit, the Cuban dancer Carlos Acos-

ta. He joined the Royal Ballet

RECITALS devoted to one composer

can be like exhibitions focusing on a

single artist: the audience's journey

from one piece to another depends en-

tirely on presentation. In his all-Cho-

pin programme at the Wigmore Hall,

Kevin Kenner made up for a slightly

apologetic platform manner with play-

ing that drew the listener in, and a se-

quence of works so satisfying that some unsettled moments early on

With credentials that include win-

ning the 1990 International Chopin

Competition, this American pianist

has made a speciality of the great

Polish composer. It might have been

interesting to hear him in other com-

posers, but there was no doubting his

affinity for this music his opening

Prelude in C sharp minor, Op 45, re-

were all but forgotten.

Anthony Dowell hired him. Acosta is a fine specimen of a dancer, beautifully propor-tioned, strongly muscled and impressively virtuosic. But after seeing his debut in Ashton's La Fille mal gardée last week one has to wonder just how useful he will prove to be. Acosta's good points are very good indeed. He makes

this season (from the Houston Ballet) and it is easy to see why

choreography look big and important, and Ashton's excursions into flashy, virile writing sit very well on Acosta's body. His gorgeous feet add real dazzle to his beats and he jumps with the power of a stallion. But his idea of characterisation is to grin indiscriminately, like a man in a toothpaste

DANCE

ad, and his obvious self-regard gets in the way of telling the choreographer's story.

Acosta was partnering Belinda Hatley, who was also making her debut in the ballet. Her Lise didn't quite connect, and in the early stages one wondered if she wasn't put out by Acosta's narcissism - his Colas seemed more interested in duetting with his own reflection than in winning the hand of the winsome Lise.

but her performance here was undistinguished and there was little amorous interaction between her and Acosta. Act III did bring happier news as Hatley bloomed, her Lise finally stirred into a flutter of romantic excitement, and Acosta, somewhat belatedly, discov-

ered the partnering spirit. Young love is, of course, at the heart of Ashton's sunny bucolic comedy, but it is the character of Alain who tugs at the heartstrings. The simpleton son of a prosperous vineyard owner, he may have money but he will never have love. It is a sad clown of a role, sometimes played for laughs, sometimes for tears. But as played by Ionathan Howells, it is little short of heartstopping.

ised countryside is blessed. In this role, at least, the Royal Ballet has found the perfect man. DEBRA CRAINE As a physical comedian melody, and Kenner shaped it impressively. Although he played the biggest of Chopin's Mazurkas. Op 56 No 3 in C minor, with improvisatory freedom, its structure was less clear. Still. its C major companion piece, a sim-

> published Fminor Mazurka made effective contrasts. And so to the Sonata. Kenner unfolded the impassioned first movement with total conviction, and followed it with a fiery Scherzo. Dark undertones here made the Funeral March an inevitability, but his handling of both this well-known music and the ghostly Presto that follows sig-

pler work that looks back at the dance

form's roots, and the posthumously

JOHN ALLISON

lin and the profound expres-

siveness of the great French

mime Jean-Louis Barrault.

His impulsive bursts of child-

ish frolicking fill him with radi-

ant joy and his face beams ex-

pectantly at the sight of the

maypole, with its exhilarating

promise of merriment. Yet

within minutes he is cut to the

quick by the harvesters' cruel

mockery, the emotional wound-

ing cruelly etched in his face.

'And as he gazes forlornly at

the diamond ring which has

suddenly lost its purpose,

Howells reminds us that not

everything in Ashton's ideal-

slang and catchphrases — which only enhances the impression that the music inhab-

sounded just like when the kids at school are making fun of modern music".

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David Calder stars in the RSC's Tempest, Barbican

CHICAGO: Maria Friedman injects new blood into the hit revival of Kander and Ebb's musical about murder and fickle fame.

DICK BAPTON SPECIAL AGENT: Journey back to the 1940s with the lamous old radio thriller, brought to tile by Phil Wilmott. Ted Craig directs Warehouse, Croydon (0187-680 4060)

THE GOLEM: David Burt and Gaye Prize GOLEM: Devide Buff and Brown star in Sylvia Freeding Cathy Shostak's upliffing ne musical about the man-made monster who runs emok. New End (0171-794 0022).

JESUS MY BOY: Tom Conti in John Dowie's fitfully amusing comedy giving Joseph's side of the story. Apollo, W1 (0171-494 5070).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES THE ACID HOUSE (18): Three darkly come takes of drugs, drink and halkudhalton by Irvane Welsh. An indigeshible drestaught. With Stephen McCole, Ewen Brenner, and Kawn McKidd. Director, Paul McGuigan

STCOM (18): A French bourgeos lamily unbultons itself, Mildly diverting lampoon, sixcellently acted ensemble cast. Director, Francos Ozon

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION (PG): STAN THERE INSURPRECTION (P49): Pathots Stewart's Enterprise crew order to the rescute of a peaceable race who have found the either of youth Lightly likeable. With Donna Murphy, F Murray Abraham. Director, Jonathan Frakes CURRENT

EMY OF THE STATE (15): WI Smith's lawyer tumbles unwitingly upon a political conspiracy Excling and last-paced thriller, with Gene

THE MIGHTY (PG): Endearing tale of two outcast children, one hulleng, the other crippled, who pool their resources. Peter Chelsom directs. WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15):

Hackman and Jon Voighl

Robin Williams wades through the attentie trying to find his loved ones

RUSH HOUR (15): LA and Hong Kong cops join forces on a lodinap case. Routine lare, enlivened by Asian legend Jacke Chan and molormouth

TWILIGHT (15) Down-at-heel private TWILIGHT (15) Down-al-heel private eye (Paul Nowment) is lured into a murder mystery. Inconsequential plot but a wonderfur cast. With Garie Hackman, Susan Sarandon, James Garner Director. Robert Benton.

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New Production

Right, said Frédéric

Hatley is a lovely dancer.

vealed flexible pianism and showed that he commands a full. warm sound.

The first of the Scherzos. Four though, seemed insecure. Kenner rushed

through the outer sections, swallowing up the notes in a churning mass of sound; the introspective middle, based on a Polish Christmas tune, came as welcome relief and demonstrated a fine sense of rubato. Things improved with the Scherzo No 2, in which his dazzling fingerwork had

greater clarity, and CONCERT his approach to the Part Profess third in the set was completely satisfying. He was most at

diance and melancholy.

Kenner prefaced the major work of the concert, the Sonata No 2 in B flat minor, with four smaller pieces, although there was nothing insignificant about any of them. Indeed, the Nocturne in E flat major, Op 55 No 2, is an extended outpouring of textured

ease in the brilliant Scherzo No 4, capturing its mixture of ra-

nalled a pianist of individuality.

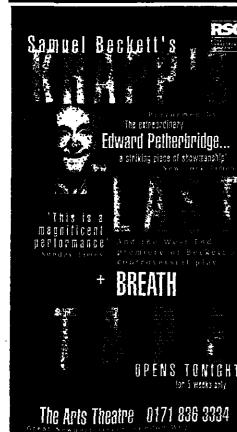
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Give our children what we received

As a government committee ponders

the sad state of arts education.

Simon Tait asks performers and

writers how their own offspring fare

usic, says the opera singer Les-Garrett, is an expression of the community. "It's where I got my music from, in the heavy-industry communities: of South Yorkshire. But school as a community is the essence of a child's life, so music must happen there." These days, however, it mostly doesn't. And with arts teaching taking an increasingly peripheral place in the curriculum and the number of specialist teachers dwindling, it is unlikely to.

Fantastic

Mr Fox

The Education Secretary, David Blunkett, was accused of betraying our creative talent when he announced a year ago that education would be centred on numeracy and literacy. He responded by setting up a committee for creative and cultural education, and commissioning Professor Kenneth Robinson to write a report on the place of the arts in the curriculum, which is expected later this month.

Artists themselves are rareasked for an opinion. though, and many owe their careers — careers which conm tribute substantially to the £5. billion a year earned by the creative industries in Britain to
the influence of enlightened ony Haygarth, the acteachers. Today, accord a new report by the Royal Society of Arts, the chances of find-

coming slimmer by the year. It's a point the Arts Council's education director. Pauline Tambling, has been try ing to get across as she works with curriculum planners and with Robinson. Young children rarely say they can't paint or dance or sing but many older people who have not been encouraged to be creative are negative about their nown abilities," she says. Garrett was lucky: there

in her family, and she went to a school specialising in creative teaching, so that German and French lessons were per-pered with music and art as well as language. "I would not be doing what I am if it wasn't for that school," she says.

For her own children, Jeremy, five, and Chioc, four, at nursery school in North London, she had to find and pay for education with the creative input she wants for them. "In my day creative work often happened out of school hours. I couldn't wait for 4 o'clock when there would be rehearsals for the play or the choir. Now teachers have such a struggle with paperwork that they don't have time."

The composer Howard Skempton's Birkenhead choir school taught him music, and his 13-year-old son Sam goes to a comprehensive where the arts are an important part of the curriculum. "But emphasis on the arts is entirely dependent on the enthusiasm of the head teacher," he says. "It is ridiculous that he has to sacrifice something else in order to include something which

ter familiar from many television series including the curing a cultural Mr Chips are be rent Where The Heart Is, left school at 15 to become a fruit porter, but he had had the benefit of an ealightened head teacher who introduced him to Shakespeare and organised theatre outings. His children are Becky, 12, and Katie, 14. Re-cently he joined them on an outing from their Tunbridge Wells school to see a travelling theatre company known for education work. "It was a Hungarian play, inappropriate for kids; we couldn't follow the



Lesley Garrett, opera singer: "These days teachers have such a lot of paperwork to do that they often don't have time for out-of-hours cultural activities"

plot, and the teachers weren't properly prepared," he says. The importance of creative

teaching in school is simple. All animals have live senses, but we have a sixth sense that recognises beauty. If you don't teach children how to use that ability you're shutting them out of a natural entitlement."

The sculptor Antony Gorm-ley says Blunkett's move had "seriously disillusioned arts and music teachers". But the RSA report. The Disappearing Arts?, shows that they were already disillusioned: last year recruitment for teach-

ing art is down 12 per cent, and for music 23 per cent.

"All education should always have creativity integrated as a leading force because it teaches people who they are, and helps them in getting to know how they can explore themselves visually," he says. "It could be in dance, performance, music, it doesn't matter if it isn't painting, but creativi-ty is at the core of learning." He sends his children. Ivo, 16, Guy, 13, and Paloma, 11, to progressive fee-paying school in Golders Green. "Its

arts teaching leaves much to

be desired," he says. "If I knew of a school that took it seriously I might move them, but do you know of one? It's not enough to have teachers who can teach the arts. We should have artists who can teach."

Gormley's fellow Royal

Academician, the painter and engraver Christopher Le Brun, also sends his children, Luke, 14, Lily, 12, and Ed-mund, 8, to a Dulwich fee-paying school which has a reputation for design teaching.

"Lily is a good artist," he says. "But there's very little painting or drawing. It's been a huge disappointment. The value of design is demonstrable, but you can't demonstrate the value of fine art so it is seen tive is not taught. as secondary to design. But Crace believes that learning fine art is the primary art, not definable by words. The cultural industries in this country

The novelist Jim Crace's two children, Tom, 17, and Lauren, 12, are at Birmingham comprehensives. He went to Enfield Grammar School where the most up-to-date literature for study was Lawrence's Seven

have never been bigger, while

the standards of drawing have

never been weaker."

Pillars of Wisdom, whereas Tom is currently reading Attwood and Heaney. But narra-

narrative is vital. The human being is the only animal that can recall the past and imagine the future, and you become socially successful if you have a narrative sense, because then you are able to talk. You can get through life without mental arithmetic, but not without a narrative sense. To ignore these chambers of chil-

dren's minds and hearts is a

huge mistake."

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical

recordings, in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

RODRIGO'S CONCIERTO DE ARANJUEZ

Reviewed by David Huckvale BACK in 1971 Geoff Love, otherwise known as Manuel and the Music of the Mountains. added a gentle rhythm track and a heavenly choir to the famous tune from the second movement of Rodrigo's 1939 guitar concerto and found himself with a hit in the pop music charts. It has been called the most popular of all 20th-century concertos, and there is even a version for harp, though unlike the gentle rhythm track of the pop version, the harp ver-

Rodrigo himself. A musical response to the beautiful parks of the Aranjuez palace that lies between Madrid and Toledo in Spain, this piece is so skilfully orchestrated that it almost plays itself. Performances fail only when the guitar dominates the complementary orchestral details or takes liberties with Rodrigo's carefully indicated instruc-tions.

sion was in fact arranged by

Julian Bream has made four recordings. The best is from 1974 with John Eliot Gardiner and the Monteverdi Orchestra and if you are looking for a mid-price version, this is the one to go for. But Bream's approach is more strident than Goran Sollscher with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. which is one of the better fullprice versions. Sollscher's approach is equally disciplined but much gentler, but unfortunately the overall orchestral tone is not as mellifluous as it could be.

Pepe Romero with Neville Marriner and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields is a close contender, but Romero is less disciplined and self-effacing than John Williams with the Philharmonia under Louis Frémaux (Sony Classical SK 37848, £15.99). Williams's tone is resonant but beautifully mellow, nothing is over-emphasised in his account, or chestral details are clearly enunciated and the overall texture of the Philharmonia under Frémaux wins on warmth, balance and clarity.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres. IV36 OBR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.

Next Saturday on Radio 3 (Ham): Debussy's Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune

THEATRE: The Cardboard Citizens company plays to a select audience — the homeless. Hettie Judah reports

ssue-based theatre is not generally a term to thrill audiences; the idea of being trapped in a darkened room and being ranted at by a group of performers with an axe to grind is probably most people's idea of entertainment hell. As a result, most produc-tions with a point to make tend to end up preaching to the con-verted; one is unlikely to clamour to see a satire on contemporary environmental policy if one is a member of a forestpulping lobby group, for in-

None of this would really matter if the world were a perfect place populated by a

TEMPENTS STIRTS

Get your big issues here thoughtful citizenry, but the fact is that we would all benefit becomes part of the action and, by extension, part of the solution. A necessarily tragic from having our complacent

scenario is presented, and the "speciactors" are invited to in-

tervene at any point and at-tempt to change the course of the action for the better by tak-

ing the part of the central char-

acter. So successful has this idea become in Brazil that

tion, but how to use it without resorting to didacticism? The answer, according to the Brazilian theatre guru Augusto Boal, is to develop a form of theatre based around inclusivity rather than alienation, to let the stage become a

worldview shaken up from time to time. Theatre is an ide-

al medium for such provoca-

Boal has developed a form of legislation based on forum theatre: essentially placing the law-making process in the hands of the people.

Boal visited Britain last forum in which the audience __ The Golden Sword -STAMFORD RAFFLES AND THE EAST Adventures, travels and collecting in Southeast Asia Standard & Chartered

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month to display his legislative theatre to a packed audience. While the demonstration worked on one level - intervention was enthusiastic and laws were "passed" by the bucketload - the whole speciacle left a rather unpleasant taste in one's mouth. Instead of becoming an arena for debate, the hall succumbed to what was essentially mob rule because the audience, which consisted almost entirely of middle-class, liberal, white North Londoners, was in consensus on almost every issue raised; anti-Ofsted, pro-pedestrianisation and so on. The exercise became so terrifyingly tribal that it seemed rather an

he trick to pulling off forum theatre is in get-ting the balance right: entertaining enough to hold an audience, difficult enough to provoke them and located in such a way that a variety of opinions are elicited from a diverse group of people. One company that manages to do this with considerable aplomb is Cardboard Citizens, which has just completed its twelfth national tour in seven years.



Cardboard Citizens: Neil Brennan (tear) and Dele Adagumodo

The state of the s

winter months. Not only does

You probably wouldn't have heard of any of the cast, the company's texts are not available from all good bookshops, and it is very unlikely that you will either have seen the tour advertised or managed to catch a show. Cardboard Citizens is a homeless people's the are anything but right-on or toatre company that plays to hostels, day centres and cold

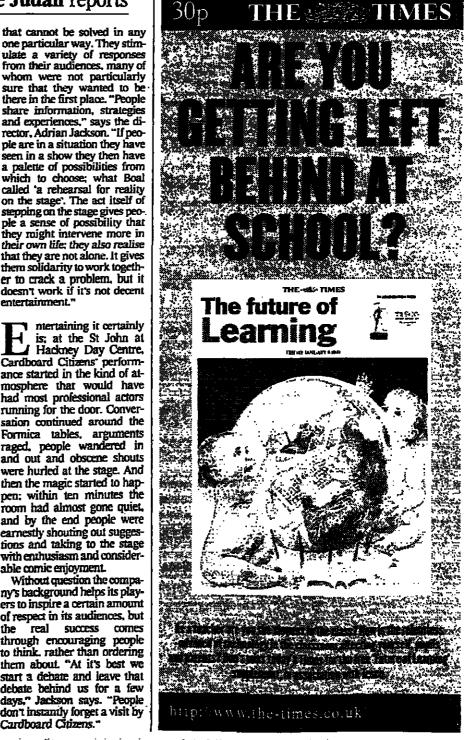
able comic enjoyment. Without question the compaweather shelters during the

it play to a homeless audience, but the company is constituted entirely of actors who are or have at one point been home-Cardboard Citizens' shows kenistic, the scenarios present-Cardboard Citizens." ed are true moral brainteasers

one particular way. They stimulate a variety of responses from their audiences, many of whom were not particularly sure that they wanted to be there in the first place. "People share information, strategies and experiences," says the director, Adrian Jackson. "If people are in a situation they have seen in a show they then have a palette of possibilities from which to choose; what Boal called 'a rehearsal for reality on the stage. The act itself of stepping on the stage gives peo-ple a sense of possibility that they might intervene more in their own life; they also realise that they are not alone. It gives them solidarity to work togeth-er to crack a problem, but it doesn't work if it's not decent entertainment."

ntertaining it certainly is; at the St John at Hackney Day Centre, Cardboard Citizens performance started in the kind of atmosphere that would have had most professional actors running for the door. Conversation continued around the Formica tables, arguments raged, people wandered in and out and obscene shouts were hurled at the stage. And then the magic started to happen; within ten minutes the room had almost gone quiet. and by the end people were earnestly shouting out suggestions and taking to the stage with enthusiasm and consider-

ny's background helps its players to inspire a certain amount of respect in its audiences, but the real success comes through encouraging people to think, rather than ordering them about. "At it's best we start a debate and leave that debate behind us for a few days," Jackson says. "People don't instantly forget a visit by



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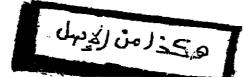
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Dan Brennan, QC. "He wants everything done yesterday," a Bar source says. "He is very action-orientated. And he can be a bit waspish"

Misuse of funds: civil servants who slip up

A new law is needed to control officials who transgress but a high degree of culpability must be established

hen should elected councillors and paid officials be held criminally liable for their acts? At present, there is a vague and antiquated common law offence of misconduct in public office, which has an ill-defined and uncertain threshold for criminal liability, and which depends mainly on a series of very ancient cases.

Under the present law elected local councillors and paid officials of local government are also liable to a surcharge if they misuse their official positions. In early 1997, for example, the High Court ordered Dame Shirley Porter and another councillor to pay £27,023,376 to Westminster council on the basis that they had, "by wilful misconduct", caused a loss to the council of that amount, a decision which they are now challenging.

The surcharge remedy was looked at by the Committee on Standards in Pub-lic Life under Lord Nolan which produced a report in July 1997 recommending that consideration be given to the introduction of a statutory offence of misuse of public office, and asking for comments.

The standards committee drew attention to the strong views held in some quarters that whereas elected local councillors and paid officers of local government may be liable to a penalty surcharge in the event of losses to the taxpayer, no such penalty applies in any other area of public life. The surcharge remedy cannot be applied, for example. to government ministers, to civil servants, or to board members or officers of appointed bodies. The standards committee accepted this complaint, explain-

ing that "no convincing reasons - indeed, no reasons at all - other than the accident of history have been put to us to justify this distinction". The committee was also concerned that a councillor or officer was at risk of being held liable for the entire loss in the case of relatively minor pieces of misconduct, but might not be made liable for much more serious misconduct that had not led to any loss.

In the Westminster ease, the Divisional Court remarked that it was unsurprising that the committee had commented adversely on the fact that the auditor had acted as investigator, prosecutor and judge. The standards committee considered that the surcharge was a "wholly inappropriate procedure" and said that it "would not wish to extend or retain it". It believed that a new statutory offence should be defined in such a way as to reflect the common law offence of misconduct in public office and it asked for views on the proposals.

The committee concluded its paper by stating that it would be best if consideration of the details of how the legislation might be best framed were carried forward in consultation with the Law Commissioner responsible for criminal law matters. This suggestion was accepted and it has been taken forward in this way, rather than as a conventional Law Commission project, and a new statutory offence has been proposed. It is being considered by an inter-departmental working group and a decision will be made by ministers on whether to take it forward and how

As a result of the helpful and thoughtful responses to the committee's paper, the suggestion is that there should be a new offence of misuse of public office for officials. Others are to decide precisely who will be bound by it.

The proposed offence would be based on an

improper exercise of, or improper omission to, exercise a duty or power, and the threshold of liability would be set at a high level. Clearly, an act should be considered an offence only only where a high degree of culpability has been established. To be convicted of the offence, a defendant would either have performed an unlawful act or made an unlawful omission which he or she knew to be unlawful; or alternatively, performed an act or made an omission which was improper according to the standards of any reasonable and honest holder of the defendant's office, as he or she was aware. Mere negligence or gross negligence, as opposed

to knowing or conscious wrongdoing, simply would not suffice. There is a very clear risk that an offence of this sort could be used for political purposes. At present, a private prosecution can be brought for the exist-

ing offence of misconduct in public office. Thus, under the present law, a member of the opposition on a local council could bring a private prosecution against, say, the council leader, just before an important election.

learly, the council leader's reputation and prospects could be seriously damaged by the mere fact that such a prosecution had been brought; and even if the case were subsequently dismissed after the election, much harm might have been done in the meantime.

It seems appropriate, then, that no prosecutions for the new offence should be permitted to be brought without the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions. This would also have the advantage that the DPP would have to bear in mind the public interest tests, which would require factors in favour of and against prosecution to be weighed up carefully and fairly. The result would be that the fear that prosecutions might be brought for minor and technical matters could be met.

'Our profession will face great challenges'

an Brennan, QC, knows what it is like to be up against it. An advocate whose career has been busy with accident victims, he takes on big insurance companies and vins damages - sometimes record sum. But just as he was reaching the peak of his profession in the 1980s, illness struck and he lost his voice, a poten-

tially disastious blow for any advocate. Mr Brennan fought to regain something of a whisper and now his husky croak is his hallmark. The croak will be heard often in coming months. This year, as the Bar rioves through the final stages of its slow metamorphosis into a modern shape for the millennium, it falls to Mr Brennan to steer it through the upheaval.

Combative skills aside, he is well suited as successor to Heather Hallett. QC. as Chairman of the Bar Council. Both were State-educated. Mr Brennan, whose antecedents are Irish Roman Catholic, was born in Yorkshire. His parents ran a pub in Bradfordand his family had no connection with the law. He is a long way from the old image of the upper-crust lawyer.

Mr Brenian told the Bar Council last month that in 1999 "our profession will face challenges as great as any in the past". The reasons are threefold: the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, is committed to legal reform in his Access to Jus-tice Bill; clients are more pressing and cost-conscious; and consumers expect

The Bar, he says, has an abundance of talent, brainpower and energy. "It is therefore my firm belief that we must approach. nor negative reaction. Mr Brennan is not ation to remove a birthmarkl, they need every penny of it... and the Legal Aid source says. "He wants everything done yesterday. He's very action-orientated.

And he can be a bit waspish." His background is in the North, outside Oxbridge or the inner circles of the Bar in

A radical leads the Bar into 2000. Profile by Frances Gibb

London. He was educated at St Brede's Grammar School in Bradford and Manchester University, where he met Pilar, who is Spanish and a translator. They

married and have four sons. He and other colleagues broke new ground by setting up their own chambers (later joined by such names as Rodney Klevan, QC). And Mr Brennan still roots for the regions and would like more work devolved, with High Court judges based there for three years or so at a time.

Gradually, he came to specialise in personal injuries and medical negligence work and the practice took him to London. Recently named "Simply the Best" in a survey in Lawyer magazine, Mr Brennan has made his name with a list of high-profile cases. These include acting for the plaintiffs in the HIV/haemophiliac claims, which were settled for £15 million; for relatives in the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster; until recently, when he took up the chairmanship, for the lung cancer victims in current tobacco litigation (on a "no-win, no-fee basis") and for the residents of Canary Wharf in an environmen-

tal claim that went to the House of Lords. Mr Brennan speaks of his cases with passion. "When I win £3 million in damages for a brain-damaged child (as he did recently for Helen Edwards, a teenager brain-damaged when aged five in an oper-

But he is realistic about the Government's reforms and chooses his battles carefully. The fight over extending rights of audience - the so-called Bar Wars,

which have dogged the past decade - are over. He comments: "I accept that the Government is determined to make these changes." Instead, he will focus on the Government's plans for increased state regulation of the profession. This, be believes, presents the biggest threat the pro-fession has known. "It is wrong that the Government should have the sole power to determine who should prosecute, who should defend ... who shall appear in court and how cases shall be paid for."

All this was being done, he says, with no statutory objectives as to how the new legal aid funding would be awarded. "Under the Bill, the Lord Chancellor is creating a huge amount of executive power. with no apparent means of testing it by judicial review." The Bar, with help from some of the judges, will fight hard to give judges a vote (with the Lord Chancellor) over such matters as rights of audience and rules of the profession. Mr Breman says: "Why should Parliament have power to regulate the rules of the profession when MPs themselves need to be regulated by a Parliamentary Commissioner?"

ther changes include reforms to improve the entry arrangements to the profession; hu-man rights initiatives, including a programme of school visits and a Citizen's Guide to the Human Rights Act: Kitemarks for chambers to improve standards: and continuing education for the Bar. "I am setting out my agenda for modernising the Bar," he says. "The Government wants to engage in radical change. and so do we. But we want it to keep up

More difficult may be ensuring that the older rank and file keep up. But Mr Brennan can exhibit great charm. As one Bar source put it. "He will be showing them the medicine, and they won't like it. But they are going to have to take it."

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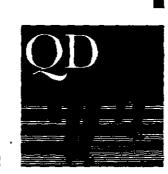
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For further details and an application form, contact BBC cruitment Services (quote ref. 30363/T) Tel: 0181-740 0005. Minicom: 0181-225 9878. Postcard: PO Box 7000, London W12 8GJ. E-mail: recserv@bbc.co.uk Online: www.bbc.co.uk/jobs/e30363.shtml Closes january 18th.

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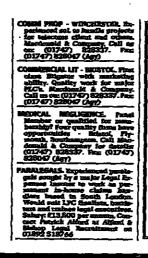
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THE KEY ISSU









THE TIMES TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 1999

Holidays: risks of the trade

British tour operators must be regulated, says Stephanie Trotter

his is the time of year when we dream of holidays in the sun. But the killing of tourists in Yemen last week has cast a brutal shadow on the notion of white sand, tropical seas and palm trees. Should holidaymakers take responsibility for choosing dangerous desti-nations? Does the fact that British tour operators organise holidays imply that they are safe? In the case of Yemen, was it enough that a warning had been issued of a high risk of kidnapping (al-though until then nobody had been killed)?

If we leave aside the tricky question of a possible cause of action against the Yemeni Government for alleged failure to pass on a message that British nationals were to be targeted, could the Foreign Office be sued if it acted negligently? The Crown Proceedngs Act 1947, Section 2, allows actions to be brought in tort, but there is no apparent

antastic

evidence of negligence. Név Johnson of the Foreign Office says: "The For-eign Office issues advice. We cannot actually stop people from travelling, but we will word it as strongly as possible. In Chechnya, for example, we say, 'Don't go, in any circumstances'. With Florida, we state that British tourists have been targeted for muggings there, but it is the only America state where we give actvice.

We never get involved with insurance. The prime information we use comes' from our posts overseas. They advise us about how and when advice should bechanged, and then we look at it in the broader perspec-

Package tours give the traveller a sense of security: the feeling that everything



A beach resort may look like the answer to your wish for a relaxing holiday. But has your tour operator discovered any potential pitfalls?

the added assurance of a company representative being on hand if things go wrong. However, on a Thornson holiday in Egypt, the tour representative was blamed by a holidaymaker, Sheryl Scarisbrick, who was seriously injured when she walking into a glass balcony door. She claimed that the

rep failed to help her. Clive Garner, a partner in Irwin Mitchell of Birmingham, which specialises in foreign illness and accident claims, says: There has been a large increase in the past two years of accident claims against a wide range of tour operators.

The largest group actions claim of its kind that we are involved with arises from illness among 600 people at an hotel in Majorca.

"More people are travelling abroad now, increasingly on all inclusive holidays. and tour operators are going has been checked out, plus to more exotic locations,

which increases the risk of illness. If the infrastructure of the country is not developed, as is the situation in the Dominican Republic, there is an increased risk."

consumers are more aware of their rights now and are more alert to the need to gather evidence and instruct specialist solicitors rather than pursuing claims on their own. What

has traditionally
happened, he
adds, 'is that people who
have suffered quite serious illness have been palmed off with ludicrously low levels of compensation. They have acepted low amounts because they have not been advised as to what the courts are likely to award."

Future holidaymakers should know that the arbitration service, run by the Association of British Travel

Agents, excludes personal injuries. The Package Travel Regulations 1992 enable holisurvive this level of attrition? daymakers to sue the tour op-Will lawyers continue to proferator for breach of the holiit from these sad cases? day contract, leaving the

Mr Garner believes that tour operator to recover against suppliers abroad -stop obvious dangers. For example, tour companies could An independent body could advise consumers

and recommend experts

such as hoteliers. The combination of these regulations, which came into force six years ago, conditional fees ("no win, no fee") and the proliferation of video cameras, possibly explain the recent increase in litigation. Brenda Wall of Holiday

Travel Watch claims that about £60 million in compensation was paid out last year and that many more claims

are being processed or initiat-ed. Will the holiday industry with the Foreign Office.
The Advertising Stand-

The easiest remedy is, to

select safer hotels, by

cutting out accommo-

dation with locked or

If rigorous selection

can reduce risk, an in-dependent holiday safety body should be

set up to monitor holi-days. Such a body

could also advise consumers,

recommend experts, operate

a constant emergency hel-

pline, investigate complaints

and ensure that tour opera-

tors abide by a code of conduct. Funding could be from

This body could also press

for safety measures, Europe-

an directives, for example.

on fire regulations and prop-

er enforcement, and liaise

a modest levy.

blocked fire exits.

ards Authority ensures that advertisements are legal, decent, honest and truthful. Funded by a voluntary levy on industry, it works by publicising the trade's misde-meanours — a penalty that could also work in the media-sensitive travel trade.

If the co-operation needed to raise holiday safety standards failed, then mandatory licensing and the setting-up of an "Ofhol", with a regulator for holiday safety, could be imposed by statute.

But this should not be necessary. There should be an independent, funded body to make sure that unpleasant, sometimes life-threatening, holidays are stopped at source wherever possible. Re-sponsible tour operators should be crying out for it.

The author, a barrister and president of CO-Gas Safety, is vice-president of Consumer Safety International.

Homing in on a new lease of life

Complaints persist about poorly managed flats, says James Driscoll

Owners

have little

control

over what

they have

to pay

of flats and houses needs fundamental overhaul and, indeed, one was recommended by the Law Commission in its report on commonhold. But despite legislative re-forms from 1985 to the Housing Act 1996 (the last attempt), complaints persist about poorly managed flats. The Government has published a consultation paper. Residential Leasehold Reform in England and Wales. Commonhold will be the subject of more consultation. Meanwhile, views are sought on other legislative changes to the leasehold system.

A convincing case is made for reforming the qualification rules for a flatowner's collective right to acquire the living over shops, restaurants or other business premises will be able to enfranchise if the non-residential floor area of the building does not exceed 25 per cent (10 per cent at present); the resident test will become easier (half of the acquiring flatowners will need to

be resident when giving notice to buy the freehold); and the minimum proportion of the enfranchising group will be one half, not two thirds.

Though these recommendations may make it easier to enfranchise, they will not sur-mount many of the practical hurdles revealed in research (The Impact of Leasehold Reform) commissioned last year by the Government. Take costs: flat-owners have little effective control over what they have to pay the current freeholder for professional costs — the paper rejects scale fees but welcomes suggestions. What about dispute settlement? Switching disputes from

the county court to the Lease-

he law governing leases hold Valuation Tribunal has led to complaints about long delays and there are also complaints of freeholders taking further appeals to the lands tribunal to press flat-owners to settle. The paper's arguments for simplify-ing valuations may reduce delays, but it says little on the complexities of the statutory procedures. Why, for example, should an acquiring flat-owner have to make a county court application if the freeholder fails to respond to their notice to enfranchise? Without other changes, enfranchisement will remain an expensive, complex option for many flat-owners, which a well-re

sourced landlord will continue to frustrate. The Government's

research also found tion for flat-owners wanting to enfranchise is dissatisfaction with the management of their block If implemented,

the proposed new right for flat-owners to take over the management of the block is the paper's most radical proposal. The procedures will oper-

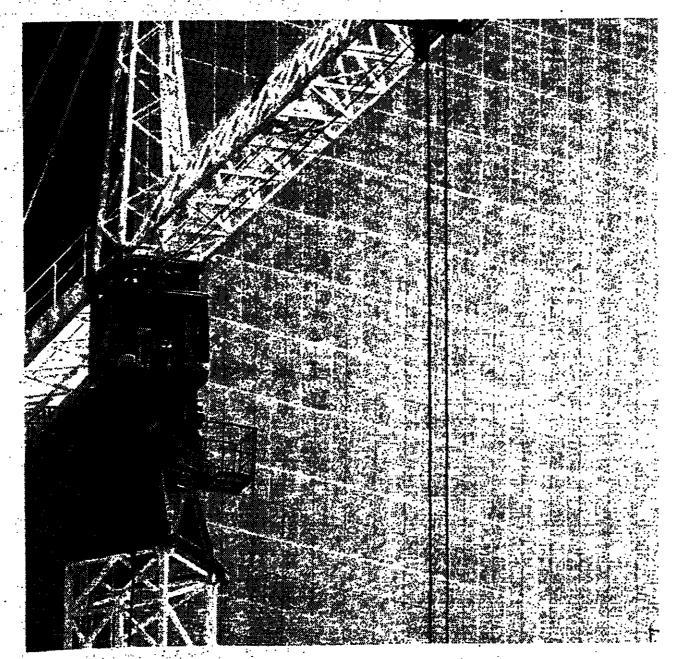
ate in much the same way as enfranchisement no fault on the part of the landlord (or any existing managing agent) will have to be proved and the right can be exercised without application to a court or tribunal.

This consultation paper will not be the only consultation exercise before draft legislation. Separate consultations will be held on how to make flat-owners more aware of their rights and liabilities before purchasing. We can only hope that the Government will find the legislative time for further reforms.

● The author is Professor of Law at South Bank University, London, and a consultant solicitor with Trowers &

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CLIFFORD CHANCE

RUGBY LEAGUE

Luyt's bid

to count

on Nines

falls flat

By Christopher Irvine BY CANCELLING the World Nines yesterday because of a lack of television coverage, just hours after Great Britain

named a strong squad for the

tournament in Johannesburg

next month, Louis Luyt, the former South African Rugby

Football Union (Sarfu) presi-

dent, has severely embar-

rassed his new triends in the

in a statement, the South

African Rugby League (SARL) said: "Sky TV is unable to find

a slot for the event in Aust-

ralia, Britain or New Zealand at such short notice and this

impacts significantly on spon-

sors. The organisers don't

want the first year's tourna-ment to be a financial disaster.

Dr Luyt and Sky have given

their commitment to the event

but surprisingly little re-

sistance from the Rugby League International Federa-tion (RLIF) last month when Luyt, who kept his financial

stake in Ellis Park when he

was overthrown as Sarfu presi-

There was private unease

in years two and three."..

rugby league community,

Northampton eye opportunity to hit new heights

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NORTHAMPTON will thank no one for pointing out that victory over London Irish at Franklin's Gardens this evening will place them at the head of English league rugby. an eminence they have never occupied before. First, because the frish are among the most dangerous floaters in the first division and second because it only emphasises Northampton's lack of achievement since league rugby was introduced

Yet this season they have found a consistency in the Allied Dunbar Premiership that has eluded them before, although in 1992 they made a brave assault on the title but ended behind Bath and Orrell.

There remains a lengthy race to be run and an uncertain future that may become clearer after scheduled meetings today, between the Rugby Football Union and representatives of English First-Division Rugby, and Thursday, when the Welsh Rugby Union

with Cardiff and Swansea, For the time being, however, Northampton are smelling of roses even though Matt Dawson, their England scrum half, seems likely to be absent this

Dawson suffered a "dead leg" in the win over Sale at the weekend and Jim Bramhali has been added to the squad, though Dominic Malone would play at No 9 in Daw-son's absence Ironically. when Northampton won at London Irish in October, it was their other England half



Newcastle prepare for loss of Ryan

NEWCASTLE yesterday acdeparture to Bristol of Dean Ryan, their Premiershipwinning captain last season. Bristol will welcome him later this week but Rob Andrew, director of rugby at Newcastle. drew a line under the ten-year relationship he has enjoyed with Ryan, first at Wasps, then in the North East.

l am very disappointed to ment team and I tried hard to keep him here," Andrew said. "However, I respect his ambitions and wish him every success." Newcastle remain tight-lipped, though, on speculation that Garath Archer. their England lock, could follow Ryan when his contract ends this season.

Ryan's new position will be more clearly defined after an assessment of a neck injury that will determine whether he can play as well as coach. "I want to develop my career and Bristol have offered me an opportunity to continue playing, as well as a coachingmanagement role," Ryan said. Jason Barrell, the prop who

pined Llanelli from Waikato less than two months ago, is on his way back to New Zealand after playing only four games. He is to join Auckland Blues, who will be without Olo Brown, the injured All Blacks tight-head prop, for the Super 12 tournament this year.

back, Paul Grayson, who was absent and his deputy, Alistair Hepher, secured 16 points in a

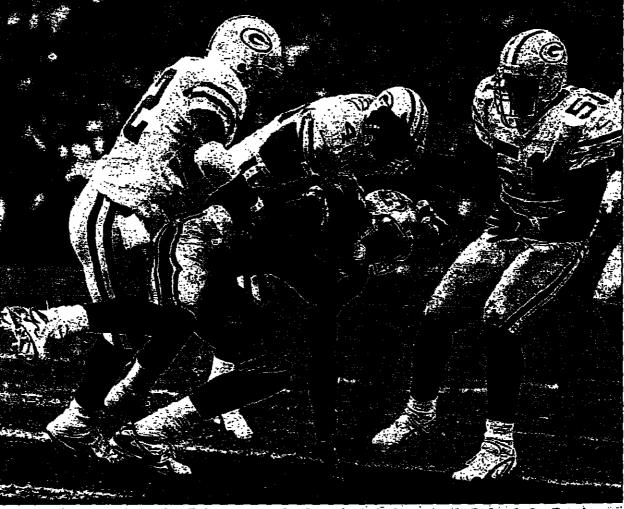
The Irish have undergone a facelift since then but catering for three games in nine days has forced Dick Best, director of rugby at Sunbury, to ring the changes in the hope that be has a full hand to choose from for the visit to Bristol on Sunday in the Tetley's Bitter Cup.

Although many key person-nel remain, London Irish will be without Jarrod Cumningham, whose goalkicking has come to mean so much in so short a time. Instead, Niali Woods resumes the role that was his, both as wing and kicker, until Cunningham flew in from New Zealand.

Best has dispatched one of his young England-qualified fly halves, Matt Jones, on a month's loan to Saracens to help them through the absence of the injured Alain Penaud. Jones is likely to be a replacement for the game against Wasps at Loftus Road tomorrow while Paul Turner, the backs coach at Saracens. has cheerfully volunteered his services again at the age of 39 after coming on as a replace-ment for Gavin Johnson in the win on Sunday over Bedford, who make the lengthy trip tonight to Newcastle, where Michael Wood will make only his second Premiership start of the season on the wing. Rob Andrew, with a cup game against Bath on Saturday to consider, will give some of his

Newcastle youngsters a run. Unchanged Gloucester visit London Scottish while Bath, at Sale, will have Martin Haag at lock for the concussed Nige

Although Bath supporters are suffering, Sale's would give just as much for a morale-boosting win. Their reshuffled pack sees Simon Raiwalui back at lock and Alex Sanderson, the younger of the brothers, at flanker, while Steve Diamond hooks so that Phil Greening can rest a damaged



Owens clings on to Young's last-ditch pass to earn the 49ers a dramatic victory over the Packers in San Francisco

Young's strike sends 49ers wild

THEIR rivalry has become one of the fiercest in the National Football League (NFL). For the past three years the Green Bay Packers have trampled over the reputation of the San Francisco 49ers on their way to establishing themselves as one of the dominant forces in American football. On Sunday, the 49ers exacted

their revenge.
The Packers, beaten by the

Denver Broncos in the Super

took them into a 27-23 lead

with less than two minutes

remaining. But then Steve

Bowl last season, had been the clear favourites to progress beyond the second of the National Football Conference (NFC) wild-card games to a meeting with the Atlanta Falcons that would have moved them to within a step of another appearance in the end-of-season finale in Miami on the last day of this month. It seemed as though they had achieved their goal when a touchdown pass from Brett Favre to Antonio Freeman

BY OLIVER HOLT by the rise of Favre, seized

Young moved San Francisco 76 yards towards Packers territory in nine plays before he rifled a pinpoint pass to Terrell Owens with three seconds remaining to give the 49ers a 30-27 victory.

That catch is one of the big catches in the history of the organisation." Steve Mariueci, the San Francisco coach, said. "In some ways, we got a monkey off our back by finally beating the Packers. The way it happened makes it all

The catch was particularly satisfying for Owens, who had already dropped four passes and made a fumble. "I knew I had let the team down," he said, "but the guys stuck behind me and I stayed focused and it all worked out in the end. This is a very emotional day for me."

The first NFC wild-card match, on Saturday, had seen the Arizona Cardinals breeze nast another fallen giant, the Dallas Cowboys, 20-7. Jerry iones, the Cowboys' controversial owner, stalked the touch-

If much of the weekend's attention centred on the hero-**PLAY-OFFS**

line looking bewildered at the

inadequacies of his team.

6FC: Atlanta v San Francisco AFC: Denver v Mam: SUNDAY

SATURDAY

ics of Young, though, therewas also excitement at the contimuing involvement of another fabled quarterback. Dan Marino, after the Miami Dolphins pulled off a topsy-turvy victory over the Buffalo Bills.

After John Elway finally won a Super Bowl ring last season, Marino has become the most famous player never to have secured the sport's ultimate prize. Now, he will have to take the Dolphins past

Mile High Stadium on Saturday if he is to keep his hopes of winning the Super Bowl on

The Dolphins flirted with defeat against the Bills and with nine seconds left it seemed that Doug Flutie, the Buffalo quarterback, was on the verge of bringing the score level as he prepared to try to drive the Bills the final three yards into the Miami end 20ne. Then Flutic was sacked by Trace Armstrong, the Miami defensive end, the ball spilt from his hands and was recovered by Shane Burton to preserve Miami's 24-17 lead.

In the last of the four wildcard games, the Jacksonville Jaguars eased past the New England Patriots in Florida. Inspired by Fred Taylor, their rookie running back, who rushed for 162 yards in a 25-10 victory, the Jaguars will be a tough proposition for the New York Jets when they meet in New Jersey on Sunday, especially now that their quarterback, Mark Brunell, is back after miury.

dent amid allegations of corruption and racism within the organisation, offered to stage international fixtures. He was cautiously welcomed at the RLIF meeting in Sydney and secured a three-year deal to stage the Nines at Ellis Park and a one-off Test there in No-

vember between Great Britain and New Zealand. This must now be in doubt.
The Rugby Football League (RFL) was notified of the cancellation by a fax from Barry Haslam, the SARL chairman. after the announcement of the 4-man Great Britain party. Nine other countries were due to compete at the Nines, from

Rebruary 4 to 6.

Neil Tunnicliffe, the RFL. chief executive, understood the reasons for the cancellation out, privately, feels let down. Sky Sports said in a statement: "Sky was first informed ber 21. This clearly did not give time to schedule the event and the South African Rugby League was informed of this decision within 24 hours. At

no point did Sky commit to

screening the event."

plans at

Court of Appeal

Law Report Tuesday January 5 1999

Court of Appeal Child of violent husband prevails

Guidelines no longer valid

Regina v Wellman (Leslie Ed- 44 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991

Before Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Rougier and Mr Justice John-

When sentencing a defendant for an offence of indecent assault upon a child or young person the guide-lines cited in R r Demel ([1997] 2 Cr

App R (S)) were no longer valid. The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing an appeal by Leslie Edward Wellman against a sentence of two years im-prisonment with an order for exand registration under the Sex Of-fenders Act 1997 to apply for 10 years, imposed on July 13, 1998 at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court by Judge Fabyan Evans.

Miss Helen McCormack, as-

nal Appeals, for the appellant.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that on the evening of March 22, 1997, the appellant at his flat had supplied his daughter and her schoolfriend aged 13 with alcohol.

Contract required

Hamble Fisheries Ltd v L. alia, that the limitation of the duty of care in Murphy v Brentwood Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord DC (1991) 1 AC 398) to a duty to Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Mummery and Lord Jusnce Tuckey (Judgment December 9)

No duty without

special link

In the absence of a contract or of a nger. That principle could be derived giving rise to a voluntary assum tion of responsibility for financia loss, there was no general duty in English law to take reasonable care to avoid inflicting financial oss on those whom it was reasons bly foreseeable would suffer such The Court of Appeal so held in a

reserved judgment dismissing the appeal of the plaintiff, Hamble Fisheries Ltd. from the decision of In some of the earlier cases the Judge Hallgarten, QC, in Central London County Court on October 1. 1997 that L. Gardner and Sons Ltd, the defendant, owed no common law duty of care to the plain-

No physical damage to person

or property was caused and the plaintiff's claim was confined to fi-

nancial loss. The manufacturers of

the engine subsequently sold their

business to the defendant. The

plaintiffs had had no contractual

relationship or commercial contact

with the defendant or its predeces-

sors in business.

The plaintiff sought damages for repairs to the engine of their ves-sel "Rebecca Jane" and for loss of profits. The design of the engine's pistons, which had been manufactured by an independent contrac-tor, was defective and the engine was damaged.

Mr Michael Tugendhat, QC and Mr Jacob Dean for the appel-Lord Justice Mummery and lanis, Mr Sieven Gee, QC and Mr

David Cavender for the respond-LORO JUSTICE TUCKEY said that the plaintiffs submitted, inter Co. Manchester.

itation should be applied in cases where the defendant knew of the

by analogy from the principle in Langridge v Levy ((1837) 2 M & W 519 and was applied in similar cir-cumstances by the Canadian Su-preme Court in Rivtow Marine Ltd /ashington ((1973) 40 DLR 530). It was clear that the court in Riviow found that there was a duty by analogy to liability for a danger-

court sought to distinguish be-tween chattels which were inherently dangerous and chattels which were not of themselves dan-

son [[1932] AC 562], Lord Atkin argued that the distinction was relevant to the degree of care that might be expected but was not the basis for any logical differentiation between the rules applicable to each category. His Lordship did not think that

there was any basis for putting fail-ure to warn of a known danger into a category of its own. The dis-tinction therefore which the court made in Rivtow was not a valid one

The central question in the present case was whether the deindants had assumed a responsibility to warn the plaintiffs. His Lordship thought not. The parties simply had no dealings with one

Lord Justice Nourse delivered concurring judgments. Solicitors: Constant & Constant, Southwark: Addleshaw Booth & which the appellant visited her room three times and indecently assaulted her. After the last incident, the schoolfriend climbed out of the bathroom window and ran home.

Their Lordships were asked to consider the case of Demel. where. on appeal, a sentence of two years imprisonment for indecent assult on a victim of 10 years was reduced to 18 months for one act, and in which also were cited authorities that the court said showed an estab-lished tariff of sentencing.

to the case of R v L (Indecent assault: Sentencing) (The Times April 28, 1998) in which Lord Jus-

Their Lordships agreed with the observations in R imes L and as cases of indecent assault varied consider-

Act 1997.

VAT to be paid

Hostgilt Ltd v Megahart Ltd Before Miss Heather Williamson,

A term in a contract stating that sums payable ... for the supply of goods and services are exclusive of VAT chargeable on the payment meant that in the event that valueadded tax was chargeable, any such statement of price was to be

construed in such a way that the price payable was the VAT exclusive price plus 174 per cent. Miss Heather Williamson, QC. sitting as a deputy Chancery Divi-sion judge so held when dismissson juage so need when dismiss-ing the appeal by the defendants. Megahart Ltd. from the decision of Chief Master Dyson on July 15. 1998 on a summons under Order 14A of the Rules of the Supreme Court that the defendants were lia-ther the abitation of the supreme ble to the plaintiff in the sum of E70,000, being the sum liable in re-

spect of the VAT payable by the de-fendants as part of the price of a freehold property purchased pursuant to an option agreement be-tween the defendants and the plaintiffs, Hostgilt Ltd. dated June 3.

Mr Conrad McDonnell for Hostgilt, Mr Hugh McKay for Megaha-

HER LADYSHIP said that Megahart had purchased a freehold property from Hostgilt under a contract which took the form of an option, intending to operate the prop-erry as a hotel. The summons un-der Order 14A concerned whether the price in the contract. £400,000, was inclusive of VAT.

At the time of the contract both parties appeared to have believed, independently, that the transaction was exempt from VAT, although it was later pointed out to Hostgilt by

ably, the range of possible sentences were wider than the aspects in Dentel. In view also of the aggravating features involved in the

cited in Demel for rariff, with which he respectfully disagreed.

in any event, the penalties for in-decent assault of girls under 13 and with a child had been increased by section 3(3) of the Sexual Offences

Act 1985 and Crime (Sentencing)

less than 21 years were a service upon which VAT was payable and that they would have to pay VAT

equal to 7/47 of the purchase price. Hostgilt sent Megahart a VAT invoice demanding a further £70,000. Megahart contended that the contract did not provide for it to pay VAT in addition to the £400,000 designated as the pur-chase price in the contract. Clause 7 of the parties' option agreement provided: "Value added

tax: sums payable under this agreement for the supply of goods and services are exclusive of value added tax chargeable on the payment."

Mr McKay contended that clause 7 was merely a statement of fact and did not create an express obligation on the purchaser to pay VAT, for which the vendor was liable under section 1(3) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

The need for an express term was evidenced by conditions 1.4.1 and 1.4.2 of the Law Society's Standard Conditions of Sale (3rd Edition), under which the purchase price expressly stated that VAT at 171/2 per cent was to be added to the contract price paid by the

If there were no mention at all of VAT in the contract then the sums quoted would be the price paid by the purchaser and it would be for the vendor to sort out the VAT liability on his own. Clause 7, although stoppily draft-

ed, had to be given some meaning. The construction contended for by the defendants gave it no meaning at all. As the clause could not reasonably be construed as a warranty that VAT was not payable, it could have only one other effect. namely that the sums quoted were the sums net of VAT, which would therefore be an additional charge to the purchaser. Solicitors: Howard Kennedy; B v B (Occupation Order) Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss Jostice Wall Reasons December 171

In deciding whether to make an accommodation order under section 33 of the Family Law Act 1996, the fact that a violent husband had responsibility for a child from a previous relationship overrode the needs of his wife and their infant child who were being housed in bed and breakfast accommodation by the council pending the availability of permanent housing

The Court of Appeal so stated in giving its reasons for allowing an giving its reasons for anowing an appeal brought by the husband against the decision of Judge William Barnett, QC, on November 10, 1998 at Croydon County Court to make an occupation order in favour of the wife and child born in ather and his child aged six.

Section 33 of the Family Law Act 1996 provides: "(0) In deciding whether to exercise its powers ... whether to earness in powers to all the circumstances including (a) the housing needs and housing resources of each of the parties and of any relevant child...

"(7) If it appears to the court that

the harm likely to be suffered by the respondent or child in that event is as great as, or greater than, the harm attributable to conduct of the respondent which is likely to be suffered by the applicant or

the mother. LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that Mr and Mrs B were married in May 1996. Mr B

had a son, MB, aged six from a pre-vious relationship who became part of the new household. In June 1996 Mr and Mrs B

1997, their daughter YB was born. Following violence by Mr B, the parties separated when Mrs B left the property in June 1998 taking YB with her but leaving MB. The local authority rehoused Mrs B and YB in temporary bed Mrs B applied to the county court for an ex parte non-molestation or-

der and for an occupation order nst Mr B. Judge Barnett grant-

spondent ... the court shall make the order unless it appears to it that -(a) the respondent or any relevant child is likely to suffer significant on MB of an occupation order in fa-vour of Mrs B was likely to cause MB significant harm. The judge, while describing the argument as attractive, felt unable to accede to

The judge's findings of violence against Mr B and his exclusion from the property under an occupa-tion order would be likely to have the result that the local authority child if the order is not made." Miss Leonora Smith for the husband; Mr Gregory Hopewell for would treat him as intentionally

However, given the needs of Mrs B and YB, the local authority had a duty to rehouse Mrs B under sections 193 and 194 of the Housing Act 1996. The duty owed to Mr B was different. Although the local

authority did not have a duty to provide accommodation for Mr B or MB, Mr B would be a person were given the tenancy of a two bedroom council house. In October who, although intentionally home-less, none the less had priority need for accommodation, under

section 189(1)(b) of the Housing Act Applying the terms of section.

3(7) to the facts of the case, the judge was plainly entitled to find that Mrs B and YB were likely to suffer significant barm attributable to Mr B's conduct if an occupa-

The judge thus had to make an

that the harm likely to be suffered by Mr. B or MB was as great or greater than the harm likely to be uffered by Mrs B or YB, autributable to Mr B's conduct. It seemed to their Lordships that

the judge paid no attention to the fact that if an accommodation or-der was made, MB would not only have the disruption of leaving home, but would also have to leave bis school.

While in no sense underestimating the difficulties and frustrations of living with and caring for a tod-dler in bed and breakfast accommodation, the essential security for a child of YB's age was being with ber mother. Furthermore, Mrs B's residence in bed and breakfast ac-

porary.
Their Lordships wished to make it clear that Mr B bad behaved to-

Thus, were it not for the fact that he was caring for MB, and that MB had particular needs which

ly have been made. Solicitors: Joseph Hill & Co. Tottenham: De Soyza Pernando.

Counting time spent in custody

Regina v Governor of Wandsworth Prison. Ex parte Sorbaindo

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Astill [Judgment December 14]

Time spent in custody on remand for certain offences while also serv-ing a sentence of imprisonment. did not count towards the serving of a sentence of imprisonment los those offences, even where the seatence for the earlier offence had already been reversed on appeal.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an ap-plication for judicial review by Christopher Sorhaindo of the decision of the prison service dated July 27, 1998, that the time he had served on remand while he was at the same time serving a sentence for other offences was not relevant in calculation his release date. Section 67 of the Criminal Justice. Act 1967, as inserted and amended by section 49(2) of the Po-lice and Criminal Evidence Act

1984, provides: "(1) The length of

any sentence of imprisonment im-

posed on an offender by a court shall be treated as reduced by any

"(IA) In subsection (I) above relevant period' means ... (b) any period during which he was in custody -(i) by reason only of having been committed to custody by an order of a court made in connection with any proceedings relating to that sentence or the offence for which it was passed or any proceedings from which those proceedings arose...

Mr Peser Duffy, QC and Mr Rambert de Mello for the appli-cant: Miss Eleanor Grey for the re-

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that in July 1996 the applicant was attested for assaulting a police constable in the execution of his duty and for using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause a person to believe that unlawful violence would be used against him (offences A). He was granted bail, in September 1997 he was arrested for three lirearms offences (offences B) and remanded.

On October 31, 1997 the applicant was convicted in the magistrates' court of offences A and sentenced to a total of four months imAs a short-term prisoner he was entitled to be released on December 31, 1997, after serving half his sentence, although he continued to be detained in custody in respect of

In February 1998 his appeal gainst conviction of offences A s allowed by the crown court. In March 1998 he was convicted of offences B and sentenced to a total of 30 months imprisonment. A furr seven days imprisonment was added as a result of prison adjudi-The applicant contended that he

was due for release on December 19, 1998, that being 15 months and seven days after he was remanded in custody. The respondents said that the date was February 19. Mr Duffy submitted that there was nothing in section 67 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 or other

statutory provisions which prevent-

ed the respondent from giving the applicant credit for the time spent custody between October 31, 1997 and December 31, 1997. Miss Grey submitted that the semences for the offences A were not rendered void when reversed on appeal. The sentences remained

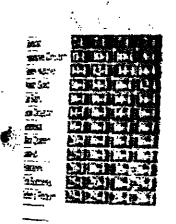
ing lawful justification for the ap-plicant's detention during the peri-

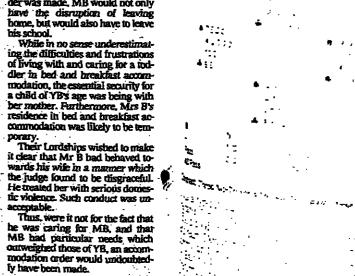
In his Lordship's judgment, sec-tion 67(IA) unambiguously provid-ed that periods spend in custody while also serving another sen-tence were not only spent in custo-dy by reason of an order of a court made in connection with any recmade in connection with any proceedings relating to that sentence.

As his Lordship had said in R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parje Naughton (1997) I WLR 118, 126; 'the word only is introduced simply so as to exclude periods spent in custody while serving another sentence.
The court in R v Governor of Brockfull Prison, Ex parts Evans

[1997] 2 WLR 236) endorsed that There was no need to distort the meaning of section 67(IA) for RIStice to be accomplished. The sentencing judge, no doubt assisted by counsel, should recognise the op-portunity before him to remedy any possible grievances by adjust-ing the sentences for offences B ac-

cordingly.
Mr Justice Astill agreed.
Solicitors: Goodall Barnett
James, Brighton; Treasury Solici-





THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1999

RACING: BROADSHEET AIMED FOR CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL START

Plans afoot to launch daily racing paper

By RICHARD EVANS RACING CORRESPONDENT

Ser Maria Mary 5 Mg

A NEW daily racing paper. called The Racing Herald. could be on the streets in time. for the Cheltenham Festival after nine months of behind-the-scenes negotiations with potential financial backers.

The broadsheet, with sections devoted to racing, sports betting and greyhounds, would be aimed very much at the punter, and staffed by many of the journalists who worked on The Sporting Life, which closed last May after serving fallowers of the Turf

Talks with three separate groups of would-be investors are at an advanced stage and have produced a verbal agreement. Lawyers and accountants are now poring over the fine detail and a decision is imminent "We have reached a crucial stage," one insider dis-closed yesterday.

Mike Gallemore, a former editor of The Sporting Life, is the driving force behind the project and would edit the title. A 70-strong editorial team is being lined up, including wellknown racing journalists such George Ennor, Jon Freeman. Colin Fleetwood-Jones and

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Lester: joining new team

sold by Sheikh Mohammed for £1 to Mirror Group, who promptly closed down the Life.
Various plans to relaunch the Life as a sports paper have so

far come to nothing.

Although there has been a concensus of thought that rac-ing can only sustain one daily newspaper, economies in production costs have convinced those involved that a second publication is a viable proposition. The initial circulation target would be 20,000.

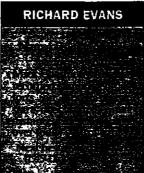
The chances of success would undoubtedly be boosted as Geoff Lester, Tim Richards, if The Racing Herald could gain a share of the betting. shop market. Ironically, it was a disastrous "reader-friendly" The Racing Post has en- redesign of the Life which cost joyed a monopoly since it was it thousands of sales to the naand spelt the beginning of the end for the Queen Mother's favourite paper. Significantly, the Herald

would be aimed very much at the punter - including the burgeoning sports betting sector - rather than the inner machinations of the racing industry. "Unlike the Post, the Herald is unlikely to devote the front page to the latest thoughts of Peter Savill, the British Horseracing Board chair-man, one source said. "It would cover the things that the industry needs to know, but be based on information for the

If the project gets off the ground, the first copies of the Herald, costing £1, would be on sale during the week before the Cheltenham Festival to alert potential readers to its existence in time for the biggest National Hunt meeting of the

With entries for the Cheltenham Gold Cup and Queen Mother Champion Chase closing tomorrow, festival fever will soon begin to build up and a small, but significant, change is being made to one of the meeting's most popular

The Fulke Walwyn Kim Muir Chase, for amateur riders, and the William Hill National Hunt Chase are both run over an extended three



miles and tend to attract the same horses. In the past couple of seasons, highly rated horses such as Lo Stregone (147) and Papillon (143), which would normally have gone for the more valuable William Hill race, have remained in the Kim Muir - and therefore have given it a lopsided look.

The Cheltenham manage ment considered a number of ways of getting round the prob-lem, including changing the distance of one or both races or allowing conditional jock-eys to ride in the Kim Muir, but have opted for restricting the amateur riders' race to horses rated 140 or below.

The change should mean the Kim Muir is more competitive, with fewer horses out of the handicap. "It is designed to strengthen both races," Edward Gillespie, managing di-rector at Cheltenham, said.



Rockforce clears the last before winning the Langhorne Garden Hotel Maiden Chase at Folkestone yesterday

Saleel saves best behaviour for course

in a muzzle, which isn't taken off him un-

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

SALEEL, aggressive in his stable but totally genuine when he is running, made it two wins from three starts since he became part of Lucy Wadham's new Water-hall racing syndicate when he took the Northiam Novices' Hurdle at Folkestone

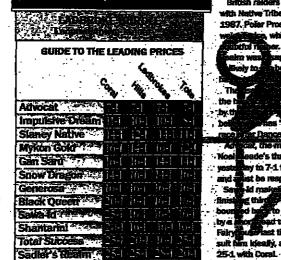
ويحذا من الإمها

yesterday. She "was in the right place at the right time" when the Maktoum family were til the last minute, and, though we are taklooking for a home for Saleel at the end of last season. "They did not want to send bit better." him to the sales because of the way he behaves in the box, feeling it was wrong to sell a horse with such a temperament, and so he came to us," she said. "He lives

ing no chances. I think that he is getting a

Saleel's success was the first of two for promising amateur Richie Forristal, who went on to complete a double for himself and Gardie Grissell when First Instance landed the Ted Long Challenge Cup.

RACING AHEAD Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market



weights have gone up by 15lb leaving the Philip Hobbs-trained Polar Prospect to shoulder top weight of 11st 12lb. British raiders do not have a good record in the Ladbroke,



Rain threat to Lingfield

THE turf meeting at Lingfield tomorrow is under threat from the weather. Andy Waitt, head groundsman at the Surrey course, said yesterday: "The track is very wet, but we could have raced today."

the amount of rain we get between now and Wednesday, and there is more rain fore cast. At the moment, there is no inspection planned."

The prospects are much

d4 Nort4 Nc3 14

Nf3 Bd3

0-0

10 Qe1 11 a3 12 Kh1 13 Qt2 14 Bxt4 15 Rad1 16 Rie1

15 Rad1. 16 Rie1 17 Bg3 18 Qg1 19 No4

Rd5

27 Rvc8 28 Bd4 29 Qe3 30 Rs1 31 Be2 32 Bc5 33 Qc1 34 Bb4

36 Bc5 37 Qt4 38 Qt6 39 Qxc6 40 Re1

41 Qa8+ 42 Bb4

20 Nb3 bxc3

22 23

Ng4 Br6 Cb6 Bxc3 Ne5 f6 Rac8 Br7

He added: "It all depends on

brighter for Musselburgh, tomorrow's other scheduled National Hunt meeting. There are no problems with waterlogging, but two degrees of frost is forecast torright and the stewards may be forced to hold an

Going: hurdles: heavy, chase soft, heavy in places.

Folkestone

in places. 12,40 (2m 6) 110 yd hallej 1, Shmpily (Mr Alt-vina, 12-11; 2, Dauphin Bleu (3-11, 3, Repeat Other (7-2). Western Chris (4ft); 5-2 lav., 6 7an, 1-4, 10t Mess Z Davison, Totre 211, 90; £13 00, £1,10 DF: £50,00 CSF: £43 74 2.13 (a) £7.10 (b) 1, Emorald Statement (B Fenton, 2-1), 2, Riperus (11-2); 3, Frenchy Maltz (13-2) See Enough (4th) 13-8 tav. 6 an. 5, 114 D Gassel, Tole, \$3.00, (2-20, 22-20 DF (9-50 CSF; 212-60 1220 DF 03 50 CSF: 21280 1.40 (2m 61 10.0) driel; 1. Saicei (Mr R For-dstal, 1-7 lav. Richard Evans's nap), 2, Po-lyphony (8-1); 3, Black Spung (18-1) 5 ran. NF. Bell Tex. 71, 281 Ms. L Wadfman, Tote. 21 10; 21.10, 21.30 DF 21 60 CSF. 22.03

taul, 2. Brassis Hull (14-1), 3, Emperor's Mag-tr (8-1), 7 ran MRt Galland Lord, Smart Guy Dist. 19. J. P. Nicholts, Tote. £1.90; £1.70, £2.90 DF, £13.60, CSF £10.76. 2.40 [2m tf. 110yd hole), 1, Inclination (A Magure, 6-1); 2, Branceposh Belle (11-4 lan), 3, Garcal Massie (10-1), 7 sn. Ns. 9; Mrs. L. Jewell Tote, £8.00; £2.60, £1.30 DF; £12.80 CSF £20.86. 3.10 [2m 5f ch] 1, First Instance (Mr R For-ristal, 11-4 lay, Thurnderer's map), 2, Jes-con's Boy (7-2), 3, Cert Say (10-1), 6 ran 9, 15. D Grissell, Toter £3.40; £1.60, £2.40 DF £4.70 CSF £11.66. 3.40 (2m 11-110yd hole) 1, Topanga (R Sudholme, 5-1); 2, Distant Storm (9-4); 3, Johdame (15-8 lay), 4 ran 19, dist. M Brad-stock, Toter £3.90 DF; £4.00 CSF £14.63, Placapol; £13.3.70. Quadpot; £3.89.

Golog: ctandard
12.30 (7); 1. First Frame (N Pollard, 12-1); 2. Royal Cascade 4-1); 3. Flame Tower (9-1) Most Respectful (401); 3. Flame Tower (9-1) Most Respectful (401); 3. Flame Tower (9-1); 50. D. Show Tote C15-40; 05.30, 01.50, 02.80 DF 525-50 C25. DE 525-

DF: 25-80. CeF. 1702:03 1,30 (71) 1, C-Henry (R Cochrene, 11-4 p-lay). 2, Mar Tar (20-1). 3, Kosevo (3-1) Desort Invader (6th) 11-4 p-lay 13 ran 14, 7. R Holinshead Tote 24 00, 21 40, 25 80, 21 70 DF. 251 90 CSF 250.50.

235 56 Tricast. E179 57
230 (2m) 1. Whittey Grange Boy (C Lowther, 2-1 fav), 2. Pipe Music (10-1), 3. Chalard (16-1), 10 ran. 1-1, 51 J Eyre Tole E3.00, £1.70, £2 10, £3 50 DF. £15 60. Talects. £570 40. CSF. £22 21 Tricast £238, 15.
3.00 (1m) 1. Golden Syrup (J Ouinn, 11-4) 2. Natham's Hero (2-1 fav), 3. Cyro £5-1) 7 ran X, 1-1 P Howing Tole. £4 60, £2 40. £1.10 DF. £4 30 CSF. £7 61.
3.30 (1m) 1. Rayware Boy (J Ouinn, 6-1) 2. Love Bues (11-8 law), 3. State Wird (11-1) 7 ran. £1, 12 D Shaw. Tole £10 80. £3 40, £1 10 DF- £13 10 CSF. £14.27
Jackpot: not won (pool of £9,722-02 car-Jackpot; not won (pool of £9,728.02 car-ried forward to Lingfield today). Placepot: £487.50. Quadpot: £9.20.

E SUNGFIELD PARK

Timekeeper's top rating: 1.15 EVEZIO RUFO.

12.45 Sharp Scotch 1.15 Maradi

1.45 Speedy Classic

2.15 Pisces Lad 2.45 HIGH NOON (nap) 3.15 L'Estable Fleurie

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.45 BARRY DENINIS HANDICAP (Div I: £1,767: 1m) (12 runners)

BETTONG: 5-2 Starp Scolich, 5-1 Sand Hawk, 6-1 Over Keen, 7-1 Festival Phys., DeSight Ol Devot, 10-1 Kelli, Bataan, 12-1 others. 1998: SOLIARE MALE MISS 5-7-12 N Carliste (6-1) N Berry 9 can

1998: SQLIARE MRE MISS 5-7-12 N Cariste (6-1) M Berry 9 cm
Festival Piper Skil 7 for of 19 to box Mountain in bendicus at Licicaster (1m
11 218yd, good to soft); previously 9-4 6th of 7 to Parket in 3yo market
states at Window (1m 2 1yd, good). Starp Scuids (841 3h of 12 to 1-a
Cry it amaker bridges) and Soldfreets (1m 4, AM, Intercand), previously 54 3h of 12 to Tropical Black in handop at Misheedymphini (1m 17 1794, AM, Coresand), And 19-54 10th of 12 to Scramt fish in handop at Hisheedymphini (1m 17 1794, AM, Coresand), And 19-54 10th of 12 to Scramt fish in handop at Hisheedymphini (1m 17 1794, AM, Coresand), And 19-54 10th of 12 to Scramt fish in handop at the state of 12 to 12 to Respicery Scace in Miles handscap at Lingifield (1m 2, AM, equational), Berkmand, previously 1-4 2nd of 12 to Respicery Scace in Miles handscap at Minesand, with homesand city incore of 2-39
10th, Sand Hands 99 th of 12 to Jay-Due-1 from it boodscap at Witherhampton (1m 100d, AM, Revesand), previously 12 and of 16 to 16 to 19-54 from of the Scate to 18 to 14 to 18
1271 130. Hands Starm 9-44 6th of 13 to 19-57 Deed in colony stakes at Lingifield (1m 2, AM, equations), Far-Sol- at Sile but of 4 to 18
1271 130. I to 18 start fish of tableting states at Lingifield (1m 2, AM, equations), Far-Sol- at Sile but of 4 to 18
128 Section (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 3 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 3 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 3 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 13 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 3 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 13 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 1804, AM, Edward), Deligia Of Deep 2-41 3 do 1 13 to 19 highlythird in leadings at Witherhampton (1m 18 OVER KEEN can well bere on her penultyrapie start and should go close for resident transe Gay Kellenia

1.15 LINGSTELD PARK EXHIBITION HALL SELLING HANDICAP (£1,901: 1m 5f) (14 runners)



Long handicap: Tiggy Sheno 7-9. Hoppir 7-3. SETTING: 9-2 Magdu, 11-2 Phis De Clesmont, 6-1 Evezo Ruto, 7-1 Slipstvaro, Blue Amchoi, 8-1 Shanghan Lil, 10-1 Romandsons Claims, Cry For Frestom, 12-1 othess. 1998: ENGLISH INVADER 7-10-0 S Sandos (4-1) C Dwys 10 ran

1990: ENGLEM INVADER 7-10-0 S Santos (4-1) C Dower 10 can
Significant all 70 miles of 9 to High Jakis on handican at Microtic from 71,
grooth, pressocraty 6-73 and of 6 to Atherych Anne in handican at Microtic grooth, pressocraty 6-73 and of 6 to Atherych Anne in handican at Microtic grooth pressocratic from the state of channe in handican at Microtic French Langue in seeling handican at Microtic (1-c) at 15% ground, previously 62 and of 11 to Constituent From (2) were selling handican at Microtic (1-c) at 15% grounds.) Strangthal LI 6-lei 5th of 21 to Architecture of 10 to ather the state of 11 to Constituent (1-c) at 15% grooth, previously 60 last of 12 to Architecture of 11 to Architecture of 11 to Architecture of 11 to Architecture (1-c) at 15% grooth and 12 to Architecture of 11 to Architecture (1-c) at 15% grooth and 12 to Architecture of 11 to Architecture (1-c) at 15% grooth and 12 to Architecture of 14 to Architecture (1-c) at 15% grooth and 1

Course-and-distance where EVEZIO RIGFO has sound charus at the wageles or an open clinical

1.45 Trafalgar Claiming Stakes (\$2,608: 61) (7 numers)

BETTAND: 11-9 Speedy Classic, 7-4 Nrystal Max. 13-2 Friendly Branc. 12-1 Best Of Our Days. 14-1 Carneo, 16-1 Heanesty Mess 25-1 English Laty 1998: DOURLE OSCAR 5-7-13 Ala: Gizaris (11-4) D Nicholis 9 izn

FRENDLY BRAVE, that have on Samutay, as proving consistent and can gain a deserved success

BETTING: 2-1 La Pazza, 3-1 Bart Beacon. 4-1 Piscos: Lad. 8-1 Riddle: 10-1 Rainhow Romen. Train 1998: BEST OF DUR DAYS 9-0 Dage McGeover (5-4 lay) C Tromton 7 rate

2.15 VICTORY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES

Barr Beacon 11-J 2nd of 7 to Keyo See in 2yo maidee auction stakes at Longleid (SJ. AW, equitact) with Redde (treets) Scal 6th. Places Lad 141.
Longleid (SJ. AW, equitact) with Redde (treets) Scal 6th. Places Lad 141.
This of 14 to Bartholomer in 2yo handless at Longleid (RJ. AW, equitact). Versita, Vitesse 22: 10th of 15 to Rich Belleine in 2yo maiden stakes at Southwell (RJ. AW, expertact). Versita, Vitesse 22: 10th of 15 to Rich Belleine in 2yo maiden stakes at Southwell (RJ. AW, itanzand). Disc O'Argent 211 11th of 15 to Rich Belleine in 2yo maiden stakes at Southwell (RJ. AW, itanzand). Disc O'Argent 211 11th of 15 to Rich Belleine in 2yo maiden stakes at Longleid (RJ. AW, equitact).

LA PIAZZA showed some ability on her racecouse how last week and should do better for first externence

2.45 BARRY DENNIS HANDICAP (Div II: £1,757: 1m) (12 runners)



1998; MOSRI 5-8-2 J Ownn (4-1) T Naughton 8 ran

Instant neutrine 5-6-2 J Dunn (4-1) I Naughton 8 cm.

Harpson Loude 8-ul thin of 12 to Whaths Beach in selling states at Lingfield (Im 21, AW, countact). Mustaketh 90 3d of 16 to Holy Smoke in
ametern landicap at Southerd (Im. AW, standard). Cavessided 9-yi 6th of
11 to Stang-Southern handicap or Wolve hampton (Im. 17 Pyd. AW, Brestand). Hors's Deed 77 Rin of 9 to Best
Does to transfer at Lingdeld (14, AW, countact), perforcing best Adaptor nech in 13-summer selling states at
Lingdeld (71, AW, equitact), perforcing best Adaptor nech in 13-summer selling states at
Lingdeld (14, AW, equitact), perforcing best Adaptor nech in 13-summer selling states at
Lingdeld (14, AW, equitact), perforcing best Adaptor nech in 13-summer selling states
13-remore handicap at Michael Internation (11m 100) of AW, Sibersand). Consistention 199 7to of 14 to Cacilles Burn
199 in Namicrop at Lingdeld (10 of 2, AW, equitact). Last time-out womer HIGH NOON is one of fear in any sort of form at presses

3.75 CORAL FILLIES ISHOWCASE HANDICAP AND TOTE



1998, DAVIS ROCK 4-9-12 S Sanders (15-2) W Max 9 ran

1998, DAMS ROCK 4-9-12 S Sanders (15-2) W Mes 3 as

L'Estable Filturine 2-11 Rift of 19 to Decent Valentine at handicarp at Goodwood (Im., good to Soll) Desphere 5 both best Presiry Queen 141 in 6-numer
wood (Im., good to Soll) Desphere 5 both best Presiry Queen 141 in 6-numer
you get 12 in Smart Kid in Nendricarp at Linglebd (Im. AW, equalized) and Respherer Scace (27b better ob) 5-1
5th. Devis Rock 9-1 Rift of 10 to Maire 5 Dozole in bandicap at Widen bandyline (A. AW, Ebecsond) with 15th Desperants (55h meter 60) 111 9th Align Dancer 1141 2nd of 10 to Makerato in bandicap at Linglebd (15 AW, equalized), with 1 ancord 7 times (levels) 45 th. Scotland Bay 3-vi 4th of 12 to Bold Directal in bandicap at Linglebd (16 AW, equalized). Dut Like Maigle 6:44 9th of 18 to John Bondow Most in handicap at Linglebd (16 AW, equalized). Dut Like Maigle 6:44 9th of 18 to John Bondow Most in handicap at Linglebd (16 AW, equalized). Dut Like Maigle 6:44 9th of 12 to Bold Message (16 AW).

DUSIN SCOT SHOULD B. a steem in major to promote 14 ship 4 to 12 to Resphery
Stone (5th worce 6th 16 SHOULD B. a steem in major to promote). A calculations of the ROSIN SPLENDOUR is taken to make the most of an advantageous draw



ETTING 3-1 Chalcadony, 6-1 Turke Valley, Malcha. 7-1 Super Dollar, Rolling Rico, Bustons Felly, 8-1 others.

1998: MSABA 9-0 P P Marphy (5-1) J S Moore 7 rzn Threfe Valley Shal 4th of 6 to Autocral in bandican at Musselburgh (7) and the Committee of Musselburgh (7) and the Committee of the Committee

ZDLA has a small race in him and gets a tentative vote on his all-meather debat

SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Banon, 7 winners from 25 Januaria: 1 amon, 7 amons non 25 nunners, 28.0%; P Heslam, 22 from 105, 21.0%; J Fanshawe, 4 from 21, 19.0%; D Chapman, 17 from 96, 17.7%; P Hams, 13 from 82, 15.9%. JOCKEYS: Kimberley Hart, 5 winners from 12 rides, 41 7%, P Fredericks, 5 from 30, 16 7%; W Ryan, 41 from 245, 16 7%; N Polleric, 8 from 49, 16.3%, R Co-

RACELINE LINGFIELD 101 G'HOUNDS 122 222 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

All Pass

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: three of hearts. he led a heart. Declarer won West wins the second heart and plays a diamond, that gives declarer transportain dummy and played a

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

▲ 104

♦ AQ54

♣ J97432

N

4 QJ9

♦ J87

AAKQ

▲ AK85

♥ 654

O K963

3 NT

tion problems - with the

club blockage declarer needs

the ace of diamonds to get to

tound of hearts. That club suit looks deceptively unmenacing, but it is a

This difficult defence occurred in the 1998 Premier League.

VΑ

Dealer North N-S game

▲7632

O KJ832

♦ 10 2

485

declarer has something like: the winning play is to duck the heart. That gives declarer seven tricks (two hearts, four **♠0J98 ♥01097 ♦KJ3 ♣A10** seven tricks (two hearts, four diamonds and a club), but when he tries to set up his last two tricks in spades. East can win and play his remaining heart to enable the defence to take three

spade. East took his king

and returned the six of

hearts to declarer's ten. If

the defence to take three tricks there. However, as the cards lay, after Forrester tricks there. However, as the cards lay, after Forrester ducked the second heart declarer had nine tricks. The winning defence is for West to take the second heart and play a diamond.

At the other tables, West led a spade. East won and switched to a heart, took the 878 5844

Street, London NW1 from Wednesday January 20th to Friday 22nd. Tickets and information from The Macallan Box Office. 31 Queens Road, Mortlake. London SWI4 SPH. Tel: 0181-

WORD-WATCHING

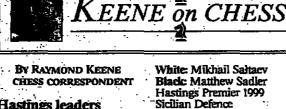
By Philip Howard

THE BRANSTOCK a. Torture b. A mythical tree c. A Leicestershire Hunt

FIMBRIA a. Earrings b. A bantlefield c. A filament.

DECRETALS a. Papal letters b. Droppings c Detonations LYMPHAD a. A boat ` b. Call for blood donors c. Crutches

Answers on page 42



Hastings leaders As the mid-way stage is passed at Hastings, Ivan Sokolov and Manthew Sadler have strength-ened their grip on the leading positions: Sokolov has defeated Ruslan Ponomariov while 8 Matthew Sadler won against 9 Mikhail Saltaev. British grand- 10

master John Emms has improved his position in the standings by winning against Sergei Shipov, the early leader.
White: John Emms Black: Sergei Shipov Hastings Premier 1999 Sicilian Defence

887 No6 30-0 847 Rc8 Qc7 Na5 No4 Rd8 13 Qe2 14 Rad1 15 Bc1 ext⁴ Kh8

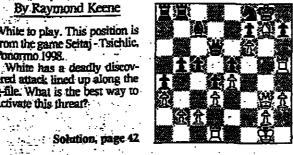
You can send me your queries. puzzles, problems and games direct by email. The address is keene@chessaol.com. The best contributions from Times read-ers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column. ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend sec-

Keene online

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene White to play. This position is

from the game Scitaj - Tsichlic, Ponormo 1998. White has a deadly discovered attack lined up along the g-file. What is the best way to activate this threat?



Such and Headley cut through Australia to leave England tantalising victory target

Run-out debate casts cloud over Slater's century

From Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, in sydney

Slater out without cause for

complaint. In reprieving him,

he took the principle of benefit

of doubt to its extreme but the

fault lay not with the humans

involved but with the technology, which was inadequate. Un-til every Test-match ground in-

stalls four square-on cameras

— so far available only in

South Africa and at Lord's -

the game is only flirting with science, dangerously and divi-

Even Slater criticised the ap-plication last night, saying: "If you are going to have a third umpire, get the cameras in

place so that it's always conclu-

sive." Disingenuously, he de-

nied starting to walk, suggest-

ing instead that he was "tak-

ing a break", but he added: "I

knew it was very close and I got the benefit of the doubt.

From the camera angles he had, he made the best decision

Such, the closest man to the incident, diplomatically dead-

batted the issue of English re-

sentment but there is no dis-

puting it could have turned the

game. Australia had already

lost two wickets in the first

hour and they were to lose two

more before lunch. Slater

alone gave substance to their innings and credibility to the

they won a critical toss and achieved a first-innings lead of 102, Australia's performance yesterday was shaky. They

had the opportunity to bury England; instead, they found

them responding to adversity with the spirit imbued by their

Melbourne win. Late in the

day, they were not cowed even

by the mission to score more

than has ever been achieved to win a Sydney Test match.

The day was as dramatic as

its two predecessors. Also as

blissfully blue and as chaotically atmospheric. More than

33,000 turned up, increasing the match attendance to

114,528, and not one of them

can have felt they were short-

changed. Peter Such finished

with five wickets, for the first

time since his Test debut at

Old Trafford in 1993, but on a

pitch turning extravagantly

this was as it should be. The

Herculean performance came,

once again, from Dean Head-

target they were to set. Indeed, considering that

SYDNEY(third day of five): England, with eight secondinnings wickets in hand, need 183 runs to beat Australia.

MICHAEL SLATER may never score a better or more influential century than the one that decorated this stirring final Test match yesterday. He may also never score a luckier one. The paradox relates to a passage of farce that exposed cricket's half-hearted embrace of technology and allowed Slater to proceed with an innings as audacious and resplendent as any this great ground can have witnessed.

Slater, a showman who reserves the highlights of his act for England, made 123 of Australia's 184. The other ten batsmen scored 57 between them as England tigerishly refused to accept that this match was beyond them. Their efforts foundered on the stroke-playing brilliance of this batsman with the feet of a ballet dancer. who now has seven centuries in 16 Ashes Tests.

Only once in Test cricket has anyone exceeded Slater's 66.85 per cent of an all-out total and that was when Charles Bannerman, of Australia, scored 165 out of 245 in the first Test ever played, 122 years

> Second innings er o Hegg to Head min, 189 balls,

(30mm, 25 balls) J L Langer lbw b Hea

ago. Yesterday, on a devilishly difficult pitch. Slater's was a stupendous innings, yet it should probably not have outlived its infancy.

He had made 35 when a direct hit from long on by Dean Headley found him struggling to run his bat in at the nonstriker's end. The decision was properly referred to the third umpire and the initial slowmotion replay, shown on the giant video scoreboard, persuaded Slater to head for the

He had reached the edge of the square when the delay in showing the red light caused him to stop and wait. Finally. after three inspections of the incident from the two angles available, the third umpire Simon Taufel, pressed the green button instead.

England's fielders looked stunned, Slater looked sheepish. Few who had seen the replays can have been in much doubt that Slater was short of his ground but Taufel's decision was complicated, for the best angle was obscured by Peter Such standing, correctly. behind the stumps and the head-on shot required a mental extension of the crease to

judge. Taufel could still have given

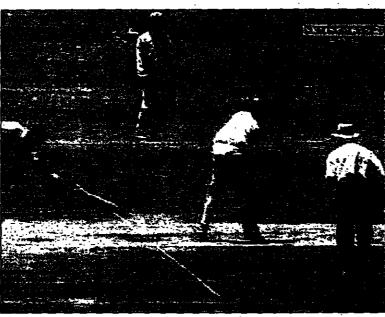
MacGal 5 for 57)
Second Innings
M A Butcher at Healy b Wan
(60min, 47 bals, 3 lours)
* A J Stewart at Healy b Mac
(63min, 55 bals, 5 lours)
N Hussain not out
(64min, 47 bals, 1 lour)
M R Recognitions not out

Umphres: R.S.Dunne (New Zeeland) and D. B.Hair. Third suppine: S.J.Taulel, Match ref-eren: J.R.Red (New Zeeland)

SCOREBOARD FROM SYDNEY



The helmeted Crawley congratulates Headley on his direct hit as England fielders await the verdict on the Slater run-out incident. The view of unipire Hair, bottom left, was obscured by Such and another angle, bottom right, was deemed inconclusive. Slater, top right, went on to celebrate his century



series to 14 for 162. This really might be his belated coming of

Headley was to dismiss three of the top four, Slater in-cluded, but Darren Gough. whose series is ending with comparable credit, first eliminated Mark Taylor through a straightforward slip catch. Justin Langer was a mite unlucky to be adjudged leg-before to a ball still rising, but in the clos-Mark Waugh was acrobatically caught at square leg and Darren Lehmann pushed woodenly at Such, John Crawley grabbing a reflex catch at silly point.

To retain a realistic chance, it seemed that England must bowl out Australia for no more than 150 and Slater personally ensured their failure. At 110 for six, though, with Ian Healy out to the turning ball and the injured Steve Waugh losing his off stump to a beauty from Headley, their hopes were justifiably high. David Lloyd, the coach, patrolled the dressingroom balcony like a football manager unable to settle in the ability to select the ball to hit dug-out. The Barmy Army sang, or offered their croaking equivalent. On the field, how-

clusion of Alex Tudor into still graver suspicion. To choose Tudor ahead of Alan Mulially indicated a willingness to attack, which England had to do to square the series. But yesterday, when attack was their only option. Tudor bowled just five overs and not at all after the opening 90 minutes. It was another error tacitly admitted. Slater, meanwhile, was the master of all he surveyed. His once his greatest folly - was now his strength. His three sixes off Such were struck unry produced a dance routine that would be offensive in others but this man is such an entertainer that it is part of the package to be enjoyed. Bewildering to recall, now, that Australia did not select him for a single Test in England two

A cramped cut finally brought him down and with Such taking the two remaining wickets in a single over, England were batting with 30 would have bargained on them conceding only two wickets before the close.

were splendidly assertive.

In the defensiv They took their runs early, both because the ball was Mup draw row hard and because they knew the perils that lay in wait. Shane Warne was the third of the spin trio used but, as in the first imnings, he struck in his

opening over. Again it was Butcher who succumbed, stumped from a ball angled across him, and when Stewart went the same way, though to a rush of blood eainst Smart MacGill, Engovers of the day to come. Few. land were in trouble. Warne was predatory, his confidence high, but somehow Hussain and Ramprakash saw it Stewart and Mark Butcher through, keeping a compelling

SERIES DETAILS: First (Bosbene): Drawn Second (Perh): Australia won by 7 wokets, Third (Adelside). Australia won by 205 runs. Fourth (Melbourne): England ever, Alec Stewart was unwill-ing to use more than his three against the seam bowlers was ley, who improved his figures main bowlers, casting the inin the past three innings of this Spirited England reclaim their pride

ney and still end up wordshy. It was sensational. Whatever befalls England when they resume their second innings, let nobody withhold the praise that these players are due. They have had the worst of it and they may yet prevail. Victory would be astonishing:

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16 (Stater 14), 2-25 (Stater 22), 3-64 (Stater 37), 4-73 (Stater 46), 5-91 (Stater 59), 6-110 (Stater 70), 7-141 (Stater 93), 8-180 (MacCull 5), 9-184 (Miller

defeat would be no disgrace. The way they stuck at their task in the face of indifference from the Valkyries who observe the natural laws of justice was marvellous. Plenty of people have had their say about the team on this tour, and the way they batted at Adelaide invited criticism, but their performance at Melbourne, and again here, shows that, whatever qualities they lack, they are not short of spirit.

Consigned to the knacker's yard, they have come back with a mighty bang. Slater batted superbly for his Michael Henderson salutes a fighting comeback in an

hundred but England deserved every commendation for their refusal to give up a game that has. at various points, looked beyond them. The first day of this Test was glorious, cricket at its best. This one

If any one performance was worthy of special consideration it was that of Headley. At times he must have wondered if he had any part to play on this tour, but has seized his chance with both hands since winning favour at Adelaide. Six wickets on the last day at Melbourne won a great Test and he couldn't have done much more than he has done here.

On a pitch loaded for the spinners he has taken eight wickets and has bowled his little cotton socks

Ashes series that seemed doomed to disappointment off. Yesterday, if anything, was his finest day. He took two wickets in the morning and ran out Slater with a direct bit from 60 yards only to see the third umpire give the

batsman in. It was the sort of decision to break a player's heart and England's disbelief was graphic. The fact that Slater, who was 35 at the time, went on to make 123 out of 184 made it just about unbearable. But Headley ploughed on gamely to remove Steve Waugh and then Slater himself. He is entitled to hope the

batsmen acquit themselves as well.
At the start of the day, bogged down by the deficit of 102, nobody really thought England stood much of a chance. It is a measure of their spirit that, as their players go into

the final day of a five-Test series in which they have lost every toss, shelled 17 chances and were 2-0 down after three matches, they still have a chance of sharing it.

Whether they win will depend on the mood that Hussain and Ramprakash adopt on the resumption. They played the wrist spinners well after Stewart and Butcher launched the chase with some fine attacking strokes, and that is surely the best

Slater showed them how. If one overlooks the run-out - and even he had given himself out - then it is easy to commend his innings. The great thing about this chap is. he dares. There he was, dancing down to greet Such and thumping him over mid-off for a pair of sizes. He's always on the move, always

looking for runs. In the pavilion bar, when Slater was in the 80s, a member could be heard saying: "He's saved himself again. He only makes runs in the second innings." What? For the second successive Ashes series in Australia he has made three hundreds, and now has 11 in Tests. Furthermore, he gets them in a way that compels people to watch him. People have said similarly rude things about Mark Waugh, who is seen by some to be too cavalier, yet he and Slater have made the hundreds that give Australia the chance to win the match and the series.

If they do, then tip your hats to a fine side. If, however, England sur-prise everybody, including themselves, it will be a win to rank with any in their recent past. They have reclaimed their pride at Sydney, which is worth a victory in itself.

Fairbrother has look of perfection in practice 4

BRISBANE: England XI beat
Queensland Academy of Sport by Winds a Mane

NEIL FAIRBROTHER led the way as England's one-day team beat the Queensland Academy of Sport in a practice match that was shortened by rain here yesterday. The lefthanded Fairbrother hit 68 from 75 bails, with four fours and two sixes, in an England total of 214 for six from 38 overs...

The openers, Nick Knight and Vince Wells, made sound contributions for England, who then bowled economically to keep the Queenslanders at bay. Robert Croft and Ashley Giles were the pick of the England bowlers, each claim-

Martin Love was Queensland Academy's leading scorer with an unbeaten 67.

N Nagra C Lores D Closses
Y Wells C Maner D Hutcheech
B Hoticake run cut
N Faktorother c Hayden b Creavey68
A Hollogite run cur
M Alleyne c Foley b O'Leary
M Eathern not out
R Croft not aut.
R Croft not out
Total & sales of second
Total (5 tricks, 35 overs) 214
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-56, 3-130, 4-161,
5-169, 6-184.
BOWLING: Creavey 8-0-50-2: Daves 8-0-27-0:
Hischeson 4-0-28-1: Frien RADOLT: Presharter
Huscheson 4-0-26-1; Foley 6-0-29-0; Preshwichs
Hacheson 4-0-28-1; Foley 6-0-29-0; Prestwictus 8-0-53-0; O'Leany 4-0-21-1.
Hustheson 4-0-28-1; Foley 6-0-29-0; Preshwogs 8-0-83-0; O'Leary 4-0-21-1. QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF SPORT
Hischisson 4-0-28-1; Foley 6-0-29-0; Prestwictis 8-0-53-0; O'Leary 4-0-21-1. QUIESESLAND: ACADIEMY OF SPORT M flavden c Allews to Nemition
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Total (7 wkis, 36 overs) . FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-47, 3-111, 4-113, 5-124, 6-164, 7-168. BOMUNG: Nathally 7-0-27-1; Hamilton 5-1-14-1; Estiman 7-1-92-0; 6 Hollicate 4-0-16-1; A Hollicate 5-0-28-0; Croft 5-0-24-2; Gigs 5-0-23-2

West Indies are grateful to Hooper

CAPE TOWN (third day of five): South Africa, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, lead West Indies by 285

ALTHOUGH West Indies avoided following on yesterday, largely through a feline innings of 86 by Carl Hooper, and took South Africa's first three wickets in a trice, they are hardly in an unassailable position.

Some resolute batting will 1 be required of them today and torporrow to avoid a fourth successive defeat in this series. West Indies managed to

take the three second-innings wickets without Ambrose, who, handicapped by a knee injury, had batted with a runner and did not bowl.

McLean, who has re-signed for Hampshire, had Kirsten caught at mid-off and Cullman, scorer of 168 in the first innings, leg-before for a duck. Cultinan, like many before even Geoffrey Boycott, resur- wicket than any other batsrecting his broadcasting caman, in his customary deft

FROM IVO TENNANT IN CAPE TOWN

reer here on South African television - discovered what a not when he bats like this or as harsh game this can be. he did for Kent over several Gibbs was taken down the leg side off Dillion, but Kallis and Cronje then batted compe-

tently enough to extend their side's lead to 285 by close of Cronje might well not have enforced the follow-on any-way, as he, too, is having to

make do without his best bowler. Donald has hamstring trouble, but might be sufficiently recovered to return to the middle later in the match. In his place, Kallis took a

couple of wickets and the cap-

tain had Hooper dropped at cover in the first over of the From that moment, until he was run out attempting a third run in his languid, even dilatory manner, Hooper timed his drive, as well as the leg glanc-

es he plays more fine of the

way. A wastrel? Perhaps, but

in the course of making 86 off 152 balls with eight fours, Hooper reached 4,000 Test runs. He soon lost Ganga. who was decrived by a slower ball from Pollock, but there were useful contributions from Jacobs and Gibson, who

have not had a particularly successful season with Griqualand West. Gibson's 37, which ncluded one delightful flicked four to mid-wicket off Adams. - he bowled poorly, conceding 61 runs off 16 overs - was the second-highest score of the

innings. Every day here, there is a or a pledge about the make-up

SCOREBOARD FROM CAPE TOWN

Total (85 overs) 212
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-10, 3-14, 4-34, 5-108, 6-146, 7-164, 8-199, 9-210
BOWLING: Donald 6-1-20-3, Pollock

22-9-35-2 , Terbrigge 20-8-37-1 , Kalls 15-5-34-2 , Adams 16-2-51-1 , Crome 6-1-23-0 SOUTH AFRICA Second intends G. Kinsten c Mutay b McLean

Total (for 3 with, 35 overs)

of the Test and provincial

The politicians, administrators and selectors are in a frightful tangle over whether black and coloured cricketers should be chosen for the national side on merit. The latest statement, put out

by the sport's Transformation . Committee, amounted to an acceptance of a public apology by the presi-dent of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCB). Ray White, who played for Gloucestershire and Trans-

vaal, added comments of his own to the UCB's Transformation Charter, broadly telling politicians such as Steve Tshwete, the Minister of Sport, not to meddle in team

selections. He has been forced to issue a public apology by the Moni-toring Committee, but his position would appear to be untenable, and, sooner or later, it seems that someone will call for his resignation at a board

Dravid shares record stand to give India unlikely lead

RAHUL DRAVID scored an almost flawless 190 to steer India to a first-innings lead of 50 in the third Test against New Zealand in Hamilton.

Dravid, assisted by a brave but lucky 76 from the tail-

ender, Javagal Srinath, was the backbone of ladia's innings of 416, in which seven batsmen failed to make more than a dozen runs. At stumps on the third day, New Zea-land had added 45 runs without loss to their first-innings

Dravid, who had helped to repair the innings on Sunday after both openers went cheaply, filled the breach again yesterday when India lost two early wickets and slumped to 211 for seven. Drayid and Srinath stepped in with a record partnership of 144, beating by one run India's previous best eighth-wicket stand against New Zealand, between Bapu Nadkarni and Farrokh Engineer in Madras BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

in 1964-65. Venkatesh Prasad also contributed a valuable 30 for the last wicket.

Srinath survived a run-out when he was on four. A run later, he snicked Simon Doull for what should have been a comfortable catch to Stephen Fleming at first slip. Daniel Vettori dived for the catch

ball. Srinath survived two more difficult chances, while other edges and mis-hits fell just outside the fielders' reach. But Srinath did play some stylish shots and Dravid said the fast bowler's refusal to go on the defensive inspired him. Fatigue finally caught up with Dravid, when he was caught off a tired shot against Carns.

SCOREBOARD FROM HAMILTON

INDIA: First innings N S Signu c Parore b Calms ... S R Tenduker fow 5 Nash S C Ganguly c Reming b Doul 11: M Athendeln c Reming b Ceims 4 t N R Mongia c Home b Nesh 7 A Kumble c Parore b Doug Smeth c Twose b Wiseman B XV Presad not out 30.

R Singh a Reming b Caims 0

Bares (1 b. 5 b), 8 w. 4 nb) 18. Total (ell oct, 128.3 overs) ____416 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17; 2-17; 3-125; 4-184; 5-195; 8-204, 7-211, 8-355; 9-418

BOMLING: Doul 36-15-04-5; Calme 22-3-3-107-4; Nesh 37-11-58-2; Vettod 16-2-71-0; Mokalkan 4-0-24-0; Wissenson 13-2-48-1

NEW ZEALAND: Second Innings M D Bell not out 10 M J Home not out 25 Total (no wid, 16 overs) Total (no wid, 16 overs)

"S P Reming, R G Twose, C.D. Mchillien, 1 AC Parore, C.L. Carre, D. J. Mash,
D.L. Vetton, S B Doull, P J. Wissensen to
bal.

BOWLING: Presed 8-3-1800, r Short
2-0-15-0; Sringth 2-1-4-0; Kurrobe
4-2-6-0

مكذاءن ريامه

Blatter to push plan for Fifa centenary cup

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

BARELY 24 hours after igniting heated debate over the possibility of a biennial World Cup. Sepp Blatter, the president of Fifa, football's world governing body, stoked the flames a little further yesterday by saying that he would like to stage a tournament in 2004 to celebrate the organisation's centenary.
With the great and the good.

of the game still struggling to unravel the implications of Blatter's radical long-term proposal, his latest pronounce-ment was hardly designed to damp down the smouldering power struggle between the international body and the various forces fuelling the rise of club football.

"Fifa will be celebrating its hundredth anniversary in the vear 2004," Blatter said. "To my mind, a concrete way should be found of organising a major competition that year. This would not however, for good reason, include 32 teams but perhaps just 24 as it was before the French edition last

Blatter said that the idea of a biennial competition has been discussed within Fifa since 1996, so he was effectively only reopening the dossier; nevertheless, he made it clear that itwould be difficult to close.

"We are going to start consulting the national associations in the very near future," he said. "Personally, I believe in it very strongly and I will be putting all my strength and energy into realising this reform. I am not the sort of person to start talking about something

David Will, the Scottish solicitor who is a Fifa vice president, acknowledged that Blatter's motive was to retain the status of the international game ahead of the burgeoning club tournaments, spearheaded by the the European Cup

Champions' League. For me the most important part of what he said was his anxiety to preserve the national teams and that is a desire shared by the rest of us and gives us all anxiety. But I would say being every four years does, without doubt, give the World Cup its special quality and there would be the danger of a biennial event los-ing that.

This has not as yet been discussed at executive meetings and members like myself are hearing it now for the first time, but we would not reject any suggestion out of hand.



ITV on the defensive in Cup draw row

family hunched around the wireless at hinchtime on a Monday might well belong to another era, but the timing of the FA Cup draw can still be a source of considerable consternation. ITV discovered as much yesterday, when the television station was forced to defend the staging of the draw for the fourth round on Sunday afternoon with several third-round ties still extant.

TTV broadcast live coverage of the draw at 4pm, immediately after their chosen televised match between Port Vale and Liverpool. That it coincided with Norwich City's 4-1 defeat away to Sheffield Wednesday and Manchester United's victory over Middlesbrough - as well as preceding the game be-tween Preston North End and Arsenal, the holders, last night - prompted some forthright

The decision was attacked by Danny Wilson, the Wednesday manager and his Norwich counterpart, Bruce Rioch. The latter raised the possibility of many people as possible."

BY GEORGE CAULKIN nered by the early announcement. "It's out of order, it's unfair and it could have an effect on teams and players," he said. Wilson concurred, saying: "I couldn't believe they did it. They should have let the games finish first."

Both ITV and the Football Association, who in tandem agreed the choice of slot, justified Sunday's timetable, arguing that it opened up the draw, also broadcast by Sky Sports and Radio Five Live, to its larg-est possible audience. "It made absolute sense that we show. the draw at the end of our. match, when the highest number of football fans are watching," Carol Millward,

head of press at ITV, said. Steve Double, an FA spokesman, added: "It wasn't so long ago that we were criticised for it being on too late at night. It's the only programme in Britain that goes out live on terrestrial television, satellite television and network radio. We want it to be seen and heard by as

the president of Fifa then it deserves a fair hearing as to its say I can foresee enormous problems. There would be logistical concerns because of the sheer

level of organisation required to prepare for and produce a successful World Cup tourna-

There is also the matter of confederations having their own competitions, notably the likes of the European championships and the Afri-can Nations Cup."

Jim Farry, of the Scotish

Association, exressed his own scepticism, citing the negative impact it may have on already jaded players. "Players are already com-plaining about playing too many games and this would only heighten the burden on them," he said. "What we should be looking to do is in-

creasing the quality of football rather than the quantity." Franz Beckenbauer and Karl Heinz Rummenigge, two celebrated figures in German football and powerful voices at Bayern Munich, expressed contrasting opinions. While Beckenbauer, who is spearheading Germany's effort to host the 2006 tournament, was broadly in agreement with Rummenigge re-distinctly unim-Blatter. manned pressed.

These proposals cannot be in the interests of the clubs." Rimmenigge, twice a losing World Cup finalist and now a vice president at Bayern, said. In a World Cup year, clubs lose their players for qualifica-tion, preparation and for the tournament itself. In total, it is a period of around three months, during which the clubs are still paying their

"I cannot imagine the big chibs will welcome such a reform. It is easy to see that the ed but the only way of doing that is through quality rather than quantity."

That is an argument that Beckenbauer, the president at Bayern, accepts but he felt that a biennial competition would rid the international game of many of its more meaningless fixtures. The present qualifi-cation for the World Cup has devalued international competition," he said.

Peter Velappan, the general ecretary of the Asian Football Confederation, said that stag-ing the World Cup biennially could reduce the spectacle of what is now the most popular sporting event held.

The organisms of the the World Cup is a daunting challenge, requiring years of really hard work. Once in four years seem to be reasonable," he

"It might lose it's charm and spectacle. Right now, people wait and anticipate. There's a lot of build-up. If things become frequent, it might also become cheap."



هيئذا من رئيبل

Olowokandi given head start

MICHAEL Olowokandi, the 7ft lin England centre who was hoping to break into the high-profile and highly rewarding realms of the National Basketball Association (NBA) in the United States, will instead begin his professional career in relative

observity in Italy. Olowokandi was the No I pick in the NBA draft and was due to sign a multimillion-dollar contract with the Los Angeles Clippers only three years after taking up the sport. But he has fallen victim to the bitter dispute between the NBA and players that threatens to

see the season cancelled. Olowokandi, who was born in Nigeria but moved to England as a youngster, was welcomed by David Stern, the An England basketball player hoping to make his name in the United States

will have to make a detour to Italy first

said that he plans to advise owners on Thursday to cancel the season if no deal is reached over plans to renegotiate a revenue-sharing agreement with the players, leading to an unprecedented shut-down for the sport in North America.

Olowokandi has now agreed a deal with Kinder Bologna, the Italian club, that will allow him to return to play in the NBA if the dispute is settled. "If the NBA season is resumed he'll be able to

NBA commissioner, at the draft last summer. Stern has come back and play, but if the season is cancelled he'll stay in Italy," Billy Duffy, Olowokandi's agent, said. Duffy, who also negotiated a three-year deal for Andy Betts, the England reserve centre, with Teamsystem Bologna, added: "It'll be his option to stay with Kinder for the rest of the

> Olowokandi will reportedly earn \$650,000 up to February 15 and \$1.3 million if he completes the season in Italy. A full season with the Clippers, under the old NBA deal, would have earned him

\$2.68 million. Olowokandi is expected to arrive in Italy today and provided that he passes a medical he could make his professional debut on Thursday, when Kinder Bologna play PAOK. Despite his size and athleti-

cism, Olowokandi failed to attract any interest in England several years ago. He had a trial with Thames Valley Tigers. of the Budweiser League, but was not offered a contract. Then, after joining Pacific University in the United States, Olowokandi - who is still desperately wanted by Laszio Nemeth, the England coach, for the national team developed into one of the most dominating players at collegiate level, the breeding ground for NBA players.

Jerry Quarry dies, aged 53

BOXING: The former heavyweight, Jerry Quarry, who faced Muhammad Ali on two occasions and challenged twice for the world title, died yesterday, aged 53. Quarry was admitted to hospital with pneumonia but had been suffering for years from dementia pugilisitica — brain damage caused by repeated Quarry compiled a 53-9-4 professional record, with 33 knockouts. After Ali was stripped of the World Boxing Association crown, Quarry lost a disputed 15-round title bout to Jimmy Ellis on April 27, 1968. He had another shot at the title 14 months later. but was knocked out by Joe Frazier in the seventh round in New York

III TENNIS: France who had to qualify for the Hopman Cup, upset Spain, the No seeds, 2-1 in Perth. The France pairing of Guillaume Raoux and Sandrine Testud upstaged Carlos Moyà and Arantxa Sánchez-Vicario 7-5. 7-5, in the mixed doubles to ensure victory. Sweden beat the United States, the second seeds, 2-1. Lindsay Davenport beat Asa Carlsson, 6-2, 6-0, but Jonas Biorkman beat Jan-Michael Gambill 6-2 6-4 and the Swedes won the mixed doubles 7-6, 6-4.

RALLYING: José María Servia, of Spain, won the 451-kilometre fourth section of the Dakar Rally, The Schlesser driver took the stage between Tan Tan. Morocco, and Bir Morgrein, Mauritania, in 4hr. 18 min. 11sec - 3min 19sec ahead of Jutta Kleinschmidt, of Germany, who retained the overall lead in a Mitsubishi Jean-Pierre Fontenay, of France, the defending champion, slipped to tenth after three punctures. ■ FOOTBALL: Fifa yesterday suspended the Cameroon soccer federation for an

the national team and the country's clubs from international competitions and friendly matches. The decision was made after the country's sports ministry sent a fax to Fifa last week containing reservations about previously agreed plans for the federation, Fifa said in a statement. Fifa dissolved the federation in November due to a series of financial problems.

RUGBY LEAGUE: St Helens yesterday beat off competition from Castleford Tigers and Wakefield Trinity to re-sign Sonny Nickle, 29, three years after the former Great Britain forward joined Bradford Bulls. "I didn't want to leave in the first place and Ellery Hanley's appointment as coach has played a big part in my decision to return," Nickle said. He has signed a three-year contract and is Hanley's fourth signing after those of Phil Adamson, Kevin Iro and Fereti Tuilagi.

FOR THE RECORD

CRESTA RUN FARICHILDS MacCARTHY CUP (handloop) and Eletty MacCARTHY PLATE: Not lotain: 1, B N Duff (GB) 127 7496; 2, A N P Essenholt (GB) 129.65296; 3, Lord Biodisto (GB) 129.25296; 4, M G Thielia (Switz) 129.4189; 5, M Berthod (Switz) 129.65396; Fastest time of race: Lord Wrottesley (GB) 43,15896. MOTOR RALLYING

MOROCCO: Dalase Reilly: Fourth stage: [515km Including a 451km timed section] Case: 1, J.M. Sevis: (Sp. Schiesser) 4hr 18min - 11sec; 2, J. Holenschmidt (Ger, Misschiell) 41 3min 19aco. 3, J.L. Schiesser (Fc. Schiesser) 5min 47sec; 4, H. Meszolici (Jepan, Misschiell) 12-21 5, K. Shinotuka (Jepan, Misschiell) 16:36. Miotorbilese: 1. O

SNOW REPORTS Denote: Contribution 2 Temperature (est) Principal Contribution (est) Prin Andorra Soldeu Austria Kitzbuhel Obergurgi St Anton France Alpe of Lucz Anonez Chemonia Tignes Val Thoran Val Claim

Gallardo (SD, BAMV) 4"r 31min 10sac; 2, F Meori (R, KTM) at 248; 3, R Sainci (Fr. BARV) 4:40; 4, C Sosto (SD, Yarneha) 5:43; 5, A Cox (SA, KTM) 10:00. Overalli posi-ficoas: Care; 1, Keinschmed 8"r 4min 47sac; 2, Servis 6:06; 3, Schlesser 8:28, 4, Mescucia 10:57; 5, Strincolke 3177 Mictor-hitices: 1, Gallardo 8th 15min 4sac; 2, Sanct 1:56; 3, Cox 3:29; 4, Meori 3:47.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL ing-card match: Jacksonsile 25 No land-10. NFC wild-oard match: Sa

olaco 30 Green Bay 27. FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Abdjer; hory Coast 3 Togo 1

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE: Edmon-lon 3 Philadelphia 3 (OT), Chicago 1 Detroit 3,

SCOTTISH OPEN: Blackpool: First quali-fying round; S Readon (Eng) bt S Maud Austrie) 5-3. A Carter (Eng) bt B Rowswell (Eng) 5-1. D McDonnell (Eng) bt W Taleat Egypt 5-2. K Heigeson (Eng) bt B Harrawer (Bel) 5-1. G Dunn (Soo) bt N Robertson (Austrie) 5-0. P Carriey (Eng) bt G Natale (Carr) 5-3. J Delensy (In) bt M Catajer (Msi-le) 5-3. M Johnston-Allen (Eng) bt D Hacke-son (Eng) 5-3. M Wilson (Eng) bt N Aleren (SA) 5-2. I Younger (Austria) bt S Gall (Eng) 5-3. R Hull (Fin) bt M Bray (Eng) 5-0.

TENNIS -

PERTH, Australiae Hopeson Cupt Sero-den 2 United States 1 June 2 Sero-names mat; Liberarport the Acetson 6-9-0-0, J-M Gamball on to J Spotyman 2-6, 4-6; Desemport and Gambil lost to Biorieman and Cartison 6-7, 4-6 France 2 Seen 1 France names first). S Tested bi A Sentinte-Vicatio 8-4, 6-3, g Boxus test to Moya 6-7, 8-2, 3-6. Reduc and Tested bi Moya and Sancing-Vicatio 7-5, 7-6. ADELARIE: Australian Ments Hardcourt chrosphonalips: Part Roundt G Kuerten (Bre) bi. J. Colmard (Fr) 7-5, 6-1, M Tebbus (Ana) bi. 3. Laneari (Carl 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; 5. Drater (Part bi. J. Chrosiolo (July 3-6, 7-6, 6-3, 1. Stokenberg (Aus) bi. A Di Pasquala (Fr) 6-7, 6-4, T. Engulat (Swe) bi. M. Mood-note (Aust) 6-6, 6-4, 6-4, L. Hewet (Aust) bi. M (Kefert (Gar) 7-5 6-4. BRISBANE: Australian Women's Hard-court championships First round: A Sug-yame (Japan) bi C Morariu (US) 6-2, 6-7, 6-3, S Pdowski (Fr) bi A Molik (Jay) 6-3, 6-2, R Dragomir (Rom) bi E Taylariova (Jul) 6-1, 6-3, W Sh-ing (Talwan) bi S Pis-chite (Aut) 6-4, 7-8 (7-2), M Sema (Sp) bi S Apptimens (Bel) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; E Lichovisa-va Plaus) bi N Print (Jac) 6-2, 6-1; N Dechy (Fr) bi T Parrova 6-1, 2-6, 6-2.

3-8, 6-3, 6-4 S Fenna (t) bt A Glass (Ger) 6-4, 7-5, J Hatend-Decupis (F) bt J TNepedly (Carl) 6-3, 6 Schett (Austria) bt E Wegn-er (Ger) 6-1, 6-0, M Alejandro Verito (Yen) bt M Wengermer (Ger) 5-7, 6-0, 6-0, F Labor (Arg) bt R Hudson (NC) 6-3, 6-2 M Shaug-nessy (US) bt L Golarsa (t) 6-1, 6-4, CLIPPER ROUND THE WORLD RACE Leg 2d (Galepagos to Hawar, with males to Inshi): 1, Ariol (A Thomson) 2954, 2, Anti-ope (K Hams) 2982, 3, Chrysotia (T Hedg-es) 3018, 4, Mermenus (B Sollers) 3039, 4=

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated *tienotes all-ticket
Auto Windscreens Shield
Northern Section Second round Darlington v Chesterfield Halitax v York Huli v Wrexham

Lincoln v Mensfield . ..(7.45) ...(7.45) Wigan v Scarborough Southern Section
Bounemouth v Peterborough (7.45)
Brighton v Millwaii (7.45)
Camb Utd v Northempton (7.45)
Exster v Southend (7.45)

Tennents Scottish Cup Second round replay Stirling v Montrose.....

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH FA XI V Comb Services (at Burton Albion). Comb Services (et Button Ablon).

DR MANTENS LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Bedworth v Tarnworth Second round replay: Witney v Bath.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Unifilia First Division Cup: Third round: Afreion v Action United Challenge Cup: Second round replay: Hudged Town v Emby.

ISTHIBLAN LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Betton Flower v Borshert Wood; Berkismand Tuy Afrechaft To (25) Sterni Innert

THE RYMAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Pro-

mier division: Dutwich v Wallon and Her-shem Second division: Barstaad v There Uid, Pures Cup: Second round: Carstration v Chertsay THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Barnet v Hantepoot, Scunthorpe v Postsmouth

THE POOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE: North East Conference: Hut YA v Bradord YA (12.0). Bradford VA (12.0).

AVON: INSURANCE COMBINATION: Plus division: Asseral v Outord Res (7.0).

THE PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool v Lacester (at St Heiers RLPC 7.0); Presson v Eventon (at Chortey F.C., 7.15). First division: Oldham v Transerer (7.0). Second division: Bradford v York (7.0). Rotherham v Blackpool (7.0). Sheffield Lind v Huddersfeet (7.0).

ARMOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: ARMOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE. First division: Warsie v Bedington Tem-ers, South Shelds v Moren Town.

MINERYA SPARTAN SOUTH MID-LANDS LEAGUE: Pramier division: Hartsaid sycoh
MIDDLESEX COUNTY PA SERIOR CUP:
Third round: Edgware v Wembley: Hempton v Southat, Hayes v Enteld. Hendon v
Uchndge; Northwood v Yeading: Potters
Bir Town v Rusho Manor, Staines v Hillingdon Borough

RUGBY UNION London Scottish v Gloucester... Newcastle v Bedford Northampton v London insh-

Lueshing given chance

BOXING

KEVIN LUESHING gets his second chance to win a world title when he meets Harry Simon, of South Africa, at Newcastle on February 13. The bout will be the fourth world championship on the bill headed by the WBO super middleweight bout between Joe Calzaghe, the champion, and Robin Reid at the TeleWest Arena.

The Beckenham light middleweight, who had the distinction of flooring Felix Trinidad, the formidable IBF champion, in the first round before being stopped himself in the third round of their welterweight encounter in 1997, said yesterday that he'd realised that the job of beating a high-quality champion like Simon would not be an easy one but he felt it was an easier task than Trinidad. Simon took the title from Ronald Wright, of the United States, who outclassed three good Britons in Ensley Bingham, Steve Foster and Adrian

"It's going to be a hell of a fight," Lueshing said, "but having been in with Trinidad I know what to expect. Fighting on such a terrific bill will bring out the best in me. It's

just what I need. "I am going to separate myself from negative people for the next five weeks, people who think I can't win. That is

By Srikumar Sen BOXING CORRESPONDENT

why I have asked Kevin Saunders to train me. I have already been up to his gym in Peterborough and I'll be moving there immediately."

Leushing, 30, has won 21 of his 24 contests. But in beating Nicky Thurbin in his last bout in November he did not impress. Leushing blamed worries over a CT scan that caused concern to doctors of the British Boxing Board of Control.

POOLS FORECAST

17 Swindon v Shefi Utd 2

20 Blackpool v Man City 2

21 Bristol R v Burnley X 22 Chestil d v ColchesterX

23 Fulham v Macclesfid 24 Lincoln v Bournemith

25 Luton v Wycombe

26 Milwall v Wigan 27 Notis Co v Oldham

FA CARLING 1 Arsenel v Liverpoči 2 Blackbum v Leeds 3 Coventry v Notrn F 4 Evenion v Leicester Middlesbro v A Villa

10 Birmgham v Port Vale 1 11 Crewe v Norwich 12 Huddfield v Bury 13 Ipswich v Grimsby 14 Oxford v Bristol C

28 Reading v Wresham 29 Stoke v Northpton 30 Walsell v Gillingham 31 York v Preston

32 Barnet v Darlington X 33 Brighton v Çerlisle 1

THIRD DIVISION

45 Forfar v Clyde 2 46 Inverness C v Arbrith 1 47 Lwingston v E File 1 48 Parrick v Alioa 1 49 Strang v Q ol South 1

HOMES: Coventry, Wimbledon, Hud-dersfield, Ipswich, Millwall, Stoke, Brighton, Cardiff, Leyton Orient.

35 Cardiff v Hartlepool 36 Exeter v Swansea 37 Halfax v Peterboro 38 Huli v Rotherham

39 Leyfon O v Chester

40 Atrone v G Monon

43 St Minen v Hibernian 2 44 Stranger v Hamilton 2

41 Clydebank v Ayr 42 Raith v Falkirk

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Ar-senal, Sheffield Wednesday, South-ampton, Oxford, Queens Park Rang-ers, West Brom, Chesterfield, Notis County, Barnet, Exeter. BEST DRAWS: Arsenal. Southampon, Oxford, West Brom, Barnet. AWAYS: Leicester, Aston Villa, Brad-ford City. Manchester City. Bourne-

AWAYS: Aston Villa, Bradford City. DRAWS: Southampton, West Brom,

Vince Wright's three fixed odds draws were all correct last Saturday

Company of the second of

TELEVISION CHOICE

Fish on the menu again

Cup syndicate comes under fire

America's Cup Challenger Series in Auckland, senior figures in the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) are becoming increasingly exasperated by the failure of the Spirit of Britain syndicate to secure primary commercial sponsors.

Great Britain has not been represented in the America's Cup at any of the past three stagings of the event and the RYA is anxious that a new start is made at Auckland in October, believing Britain has the talent to make its mark in what is arguably the most important competition in world

Rod Carr, the RYA racing manager, is unhappy that the Spirit of Britain campaign, led by the sailmaker, Angus Melrose, the yachtsman. Lawrie Smith and Prolessor Andrew

Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent, hears a racing manager's broadside over plans for Auckland

Graves, of Bath University, appears to have become bogged down. He is accusing the syndicate of holding British sailing to ransom. "I'm getting more and more worried about it," Carr said.

"We need this challenge. They [the Spirit of Britain] need to pull their fingers out.
"It's a classic case of a small

group trying to run some-thing. We ought to be following the New Zealand example. Everybody laughs at management by committee, but if the whole project was run by peo-ple who didn't have financial gain as one of their motives, it would be better off."

According to Carr and other sources, the Spirit syndicate, which has invested more than \$250,000 in qualifying payments for the cup, has been have the management expertalking to a group of companies in the City that may be prepared to commit more than £10 million to enable a twoboat campaign to go ahead.

The companies are thought to be unhappy with the degree of control they have been offered and want a bigger say in how the project is run. It is thought a bid to redraw the structure of the campaign by Richard Down, of Integrated Communication Projects, was rejected by Graves and Melrose in October. Carr said: "One gets the im-

pression that Spirit of Britain would rather not have it happen than have it happen on someone else's terms. Graves does not return phone calls and Angus and Lawrie do not tise ... British sailing cannot he held hostage to fortune like

Chris Law, who has been told by Smith that he will drive the principal boat at Auckland, shares Carr's belief that the incentive to make moncy is getting in the way of what should be a campaign run in the interests of British sailing. The campaign should be administered on behalf of the country as a charitable trust and the national body should be represented." he said.

Law, who is the No 2 matchracer in the world rankings but may be left on the sidelines in Auckland if Spirit founders, argued, however, that a very late start in commissioning boats could be to Britain's

advantage. "There are all the right ingredients there - we just have to put the pot in the oven," he said.

Professor Graves, who has worked hard over 18 months to recruit both technical and commercial sponsors for the chefs, with the rare gift of being able to communicate passion without resorting to gimmickry. He is also a bit of a culture vulture. Not many cooks quote Tennyson and Conrad, or muse on the power of Britten's Peter Grimes. He begins in Naples, where it is not hard to be passionate, and is soon at work on a local seafood speciality which he says he could eat for a week and not get tired of. For contrast he makes for the cold light and big skies of the North Sea, singling out Suffolk as the quintessential English county and making magic with cod, beer, bacon and cabbage. project, is on the defensive. Yesterday he refused to clarify any detail about the problems facing the syndicate and claimed Carr was out of touch. "He doesn't know what he is talking about," he said.

Professor Graves added that the campaign is still on course to make it to Auckland and that a press statement would be issued in due course.

"I really have no commentto make," he said. "We are negotiating with several potential sponsors and existing sponsors and it would be quite wrong of me to say something that could be misinterpreted and which could cause a lot of



Rick Stein travels the world looking for new scafood recipes (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Private Eye and a practised hand at television documentary, launches the new series in India as he takes the train from Calcuna to the desert forts of Rajasthan. Travelling from the Marxist state of West Bengal to the feudal world of the maharajahs, Hislop ponders on the Taj Mahal, the legacy of the British Raj and India as a nuclear power. And as somebody whose magazine has often ended up in the courts, he notes the much lower cost of libel settlements in India than in Britain.

Full Frontal in Flip Flops ITV, 10.40pm (Scotland, 10.30pm)

ITV, 10.40pm (Scotland, 10.30pm)

Like buses, documentaries tend to come along in pairs. After a recent Channel 4 programme about naturism it is the turn of ITV, with a film which covers broadly the same ground though in its own style. It was made by Don Boyd, a maverick cinema producer of the 1970s and 1980s (Scum, Derek Jarman's The Tempest, Scrubbers) whose more recent work includes TV series with Ruby Wax. Full Frontal is partly a piece of reportage and partly a personal view. Boyd's researches takening to a naturist wedding, a beach in Dorset and a campsite in Hampshire. On the "when in Rame" principle Boyd strips off himself and invites his reluctant production team to do likewise. This may be why he gets such an uninhibited response from people who might not normally welcome the intrusion of television cameras. about the experience. Most of the trips have a touch of the exotic at least compared with catching the 8.04 from Orpington, Ian Histop, Editor of

Afternoon Play: Elemental Tales - Gara

Alice's fall down the rabbit hole and her subse-

TENNIS

New-look Henman opens with flourish

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN QATAR

TENNIS has not felt like this was neat and tidy in almost since the heady days of Telford and the national championships, great occasions when the top seeds all had British names and the home crowd was guaranteed a winner -mainly because no one else was allowed to enter.

These days tennis, together with Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, has moved on and for the first time on the ATP Tour, Henman and Rusedski are starring at each other from . opposite ends of the draw sheet at the Qatar Open.

Occupying the top two spots in the seedings, the two men are favourites to take the lion's share of the \$1million prizemoney and, after Henman's Sjeng Schalken, of Holland, they appear to be ready to follow the script. It was an assured victory from the British No 1, who won 6-2, 6-3 in a little more than an hour.

Sporting a new haircut for the new season - he appears to have gone back to the barber who sharpened his head so alarmingly for the Davis Cup tie last autumn and at best the style is businesslike, at worst he could sue - Henman

NATIONAL PATES

AUSTRALIA

CHINA

AliSTRIA

HONG KONG

ISBAEL

JAPAN

NEW ZEALAND

PRIMUS

GLOBAL Network • GLOBAL Savings • GLOBAL Sense

DD MAURITHUS

39р тнацало

15p

15p SOUTH AFRICA

SARRAGOS

MORGECO

PORTUGAL

FAUXLAND ISLES

SINGAPORE

every department.

Schalken is a solid sort of chap who has a fair few scalps to his name but he prefers to get his results with as few fireworks as possible. Tall and angular, the jaw is square and the feet are rectangular - he has a very upright stance as he plays and if the tennis does not work out, he has a promising future career as a lamppost.

However, last night he was most definitely put in the shade by Henman, who was understanably pleased with his evening's work. "For the first match of the

year I am happy with the way I came out and I can't have any complaints," he said, ing that he can be just as unflashy as Schalken when he

"Hopefully my serve is always a dominant factor in any match, but when I was hitting my first serve I was winning the majority of points. This is definitely the best possible start to the year."

In the six weeks since Henman last put racket to ball in competition, he has been hard at work in London and the results were evident in the new

18p

40p

31p

39p

29p

23p

FREE CALLS WHEN

· · · PRO LINE CHANGE

NO DESTALLATION

YOU HE-CHARGE



Lindsay Davenport, the world No 1, strides to a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Asa Carlsson, of Sweden, but the United States went down to defeat in the Hopman Cup in Perth

snap in his service and the de-

cided spring in his step. A couple of hiccups early on gave Schalken cause for hope in the shape of two break points but, having had them snatched away by a deter-mined Henman, he allowed himself to dwell on the disappointment and was promptly broken. From there, Henman was on a roll, wrapping up the opening set and skipping to a 3-0 lead in the second. After

that, the result was never in doubt.

Henman now plays Younes El Aynaoui, who was a finalist here in 1996 for a place in the quarter finals. El Aynaoui defeated Fabrice Santoro, who recahed the final last year, 6-4, 6-I on a day of few upsets.

The only worry, as ever, hung over Goran Ivanisevic who took his time to get the bester of Francisco Clavet 6-3, 6-7, 6-4, helped on his way by a few

Croatian epithets of a less than savoury nature.

Today it is Rusedski's turn, to set the British flags, of which there are several scattered around the centre court. fluttering. He faces Bernd Karbacher, of Germany, a positive veteran at 30. The most impressive part of Karbacher's game is the length of his name and, coupled with a series of injuries and illnesses, he has done very little for a very long time.

No Triumph. No Tragedy

Great Railway Journeys .

BBC2, 9,30pm

Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey

ITV: 9.00pm ·

As the title implies there is much travelling in Stein's mird television series as he leaves his native Cornwall far behind in search of new seafood

dishes to demonstrate and to droot over. Stein is one of the best of the ever-expanding army of TV chefs, with the rare gift of being able to communicate processor with the rare.

There may be some ungracious souls who think that the Derbyshire medical drama has not been the same since Amanda Burton and Kevin-Whately left, but ten million regular viewers would disagree. With that size of audience this seventh

disagree. With that size of audience this seventh series was a formality and the eighth is on the way. When Peak Practice was last on air, Gary Mavers's morose Dr Attwood had been left at the altar by the capricious Dr Erica. Since she has left the cast as well, the surgery has a post to fill. Enter Dr Joanna Graham (Haydin Gwynne), though not before she has given up her present job as a casualty surgeon. And thereby hangs this evening's plot, in which Dr Attwood takes his best friend rally driving, turns the car over and has a seriously injured man on his conscience. The good Dr Graham is the angel of mercy.

Welcome back to an invariably watchable series in which celebrities who are not necessarily railway buffs hop on a train and send back a visual essay

For a man who cannot speak without a ventilator, and even then only in short bursts. Christopher Reeve gives a remarkably detailed account of his disability when interviewed by Peter White. Reeve, paralysed by a horseriding accident that broke his paralysed by a horseriding accident that broke his neck, is best known in films for playing Superman. White follows the commendable example of other journalists in not making capital out of the sad spectacle of the gravity-defying crusader being grounded. However, White does press Reeve to say whether he believes in the possibility of his ever being able to walk again. Reeve's reply provides food for thought for those of us who tend to furget that when so-called miracles do occur, they do not happen with the speed of a flash of lightning

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30em Zoe Bell 9.00 Smon Mayo 12.00 Kevn Greening 2.00em Mark Raddille 4.00 Chris Moyles 6.00 Dave Pearce, Chart hits 8.00 Steve Lemacq: The Evening Session 10.00 Digital Update with Radnel Reynard and Charlie Brooker 10.10

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6,00mm Alex Lester 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 8.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2,00pm Ed Stewert 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits. New series (1/13) 8.00 Nigel Opden 9.00 Tablets of Stone (1/10.00 Susan Jelmeys Says Males It a Double. New series featuring songs sung by peirs of ertists (1/6) 10.30 Richard Allinsons 12.00 Lynn Parsons 3.00mm Mo Dutta

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00em Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russel Fuller introduces coverage of the right's located action 9.00 Park Life (f) 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00em Up All Night. Includes updates from the final day of the fifth Test

VIRGIN

6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbo 4.00 Bobby Hain 7.30 Hamet Scott 10.00 Mark Forest 1.00am James Merritt 4.30 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.00mm Bit Overton & Seity Meen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 Peter Deeley 5.00 The Sports Zone 8.00 James Whate 1.00mm fan Collins

BBC WORLD SERVICE

anean environment. Peter Davalle

Alice's fall down the rabbit hole and her subsequent riddle-packed adventures in Wonderland are as nothing compared with what happens to young Hebe (Anna Mountford) in Sarah Woods's mystical play. Not getting any response to her calling out for her dead mother, she digs her way beneath the grave and encounters not her parent but Earth Mother (Lindsay Duncan), that from beloved of those semi-religious sects for whom the key to the "Secret of Life" lies under their feet rather than in the heavens. You will have to concentrate hard to work out what Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, Samuel Pepys and Il believe) Thomas Jefferson or Thomas Paine are doing in this subterranean environment.

5.00am The World Today 7.80 News 7.15 Oil The Shell.
Colomba 7.30 Planet 2000 8.90 News 8.10 Pause for Thought
8.15 Concort Heit 9.00 News; [648 only) News in German 9.05
World Business Report 9.15 Smell Worlds 9.30 Plays in Focus.
The Glass Mensigene 9.45 Sports Round-Lip 10.00 Newsdosk
10.30 Or Screen 11.00 Newsdosk 11.30 Westernited 12.00pm
News 12.05 World Business Report 12.15 Bittain Today 12.30
Health Matters 12.45 Sports Round-Lip 1.00 Newsdows 2.00
News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Mattirack Hit List 3.00 Newsdows (648
only News in German 3.05 Sports Round-Lip 3.15 Westway
3.30 The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Global Wildlife
4.30 Insight (648 only News in German 4.45 Britain Today
5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports
Round-Up 6.00 Newsdosk 6.30 One Planet; (648 only) News in
German 7.00 News Summany 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for
Thought 7.30 Megamix 8.00 Newsbour 9.00 News 9.05 World
Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Live 10.00
Newsdosk 10.30 Insight 10.45 Sports Round-Up 11.00 News
11.05 Cutlook 11.30 Megamix 12.00am Newsdosk 12.30 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Megamik 12.00am Nevadesk 12.30 Early Versions 12.45 Britan Today 1.00 Nevadesk 12.30 Discovery 2.00 Nevaday 2.30 Meridian Live 3.00 Nevas 3.65 World Busess Report 3.15 Sports Round-Up 3.30 One Planet 4.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00mm Nick Bailey's Easter Breaklast. Soothing music and information updates 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour information updates 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hell of Fame Hour and Record of the Week 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests, Jane Jones introduces listeners' fevourtes 2.00 Concerto PE Bach (Oboe Concerto in 8 flat major) 3.00 Jenne Crick. Continuous Cleasics and Alternoon Romence 8.30 Heweshight. Sport, Sinance and news updates, with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classicat sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Suppe (Light Cavety Overlure): Brahms (Molin Concerto in 10): Bloot (L'Aresenne Suite No 2); Besthoven (Symphony No 4 in 8 flet) 11.00 Mann at Right. Music through till the wes small hours 2.00ams Concerto: CPE. Bach (Oboe Concerto in B flat mejor) (r) 3.00 Mark Gentins.

BOWLS

Allcock happy to survive clash with Campbells

ships got off to an exciting start yesterday at their new venue. Potters Leisure Resort. on the Norfolk coast, when Mervyn King and Tony Allcock, the 1997 champions, squeezed into the quarterfinals of the pairs event.

They were however, upstaged by their opponents, two brothers from Ayrshire, Gavin and Graeme Campbell, who seemed to have the match under control for long periods and actually scored more shots than their more famous

Gavin, 27, and Graeme. three years younger, were making their competitive debut on the portable rink, but had looked good in practice on Sunday and tore into the No 7 seeds with relish and no little skill. King and Allcock won the first set with a treble from 4-3, and the third, 7-6, with another when they were 4-6 adrift, but the young Scots took the second set 7-2 and the

The Campbells are coming," someone quipped when the brothers edged in from 5-4 in the deciding set, but the Eng-lish pair dug in their heels and scored three successive singles to win 7-3, 2-7, 7-6, 1-7, 7-5.

In the press room after the match, a relieved Allcock admitted that he and King could easily have lost and paid tribute to the skill of Graeme Campbell, the skip.

"He produced some tremendous shots," Allenck said. First rounds are notoriously difficult, but you must remember that the Campbells are two-bowls specialists and that last time Mervyn and I played BY DAVID RHYS JONES

the two-bowl game was 12 months ago. "
Pairs championships at

club, county and national level are traditionally played with four bowls per player, but the two-bowl version was introduced for television in 1986, to cut the time it took to play each

"I think Scotland have got it right," Allcock said. "They have a four-bowl championship, but also run a special two-bowl qualifying event, so that their representatives have experience at what is, after all, a very different game." Ireland, too, include a twobowl pairs qualifier, but their

and Nigel Gibson, sank without trace against the defending champions, Gra-ham Robertson and Richard Corsie, who won their match 7-2, 7-3, 7-0.

The Welsh champions, Graham Dennis and Martyn Roberts, were good value for their win in their national four-bowl event last April, but they looked out of their depth yesterday and scored only two singles against the runners up of last year, Gary Smith and Andy Thomson.

PAURS: Flest round: M King and T Alloods, (Engl bt G Campbell and G Campbelt (Scri) 7-3, 2-7, 7-8, 1-7, 7-5, G Robestson and R Come (Scof) bt P Stack and N Gab-ton (reg 7-2, 7-3, 7-0; G Smithand A Thorts-son (Engl bt G Dennis and M Roberts (Wajes) 7-0, 7-2, 7-0.

WORD-WATCHING

Auswers from page 39

THE BRANSTOCK

(b) Volsung, the son of Rerir, who was the grandson of Odin, in his first manhood had built his Hall around a mighty tree. Its branches went to the roof and made the beams, while the trunk was the centre of the hall. This tree was called "the Branstock". and Volsung's hall was named "the Hall of Branstock".

FIMBRIA (c) A thin filament which extends from the surface of a micro-or-ganism, and functions to facilitate the adhesion of the cell to other cells or the substratum. Fimbriae may occur in large numbers on a given cell. They are not to be confused with pill.

DECRETALS Papal letters, strictly those in response to a specific inquiry. They have the force of law within the Pope's jurisdiction. The

LYMPHAD (a) A common charge in Heraldry and Armoury, associated with the West Coast of Scotland. A lymphad is a boat having a forecastle and sterncastle and stem, with a flagpole.

first on record was in 385. Pope Sericius to Himerius, a priest in

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Solution: 1 Rxh7! Ng6 (1 _ Kxh7 2 Qh4+ mates as does 1 ... Nxh7 2 Bh6+) 2 Qh4 Nxh4 3 Rh8 checkmate

6.00am On Air with Stephanie Hughes, Includes Bach (Orchestral Suite No 3 in D. BWV1058); Schumann (Konzertstuck in F): Mendelssnim (Rondo Capricoso)
Masterworks with Peter Hobday, Includes Falta
(Nights in the Gardens of Spain); Bellini (Vanne, O Rosa Fortunata; Vaga Luna che Inargenti); Berlicz (Harold in Italy); Debussy, orch Busser (Petite Suito)

(Parota in Lay); Debussy, orch susser (Feine Sure)

10.30 Artist of the Weel: Dietrich Fischer-Dietricu

11.00 Sound Stories: Five Painters — William
Hogarth with Donald Macleod

12.00 Composer of the Weel: Poulenc

1.00pm The Redio 3 Lunchtime Concert Venna Trio.
Schubert (Paro Trio No 2 in E flat, D829) (r)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Scottish Symphony
Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins and En Shao,
with Nicola Loud, violin. MacCurn (The Ship o' the
Fiend Overture); Haydh (Symphony No 55 in E
flat, Schoolmaster): Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto
in E minor); Beethoven (Symphony No 6 in F,
Pestoral)

4.00 Voices lan Burnside introduces a specially recorded programme of music by Brahms and by those composing under his influence (r)
4.45 Music Machine with Tommy Pearson

Pearson chairs

2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Elemental Tales — Gale Four tales about human passions unlesshed by primeval forces. See Choice
3.00 The Enchange: 0171-580 4464 Eddie Mear invites fistenist opinions on a topical saus
3.30 The Melting Pot Tom Jaine explores connections between currer and cooking (r)

5.00 In Tune Sean Rafferty lalks to the planist Chick Corea about how Debussy has both influenced and inspired him
7.30 Performance on 3: Susanna Handel's oratorio

given in concert during last year's London Handel Festival. Emma Kirldy, soprano, James Bownan, countertenor, London Handel Choir and Orchestra: under Denys Darlow 10.20 Postscript Ficturality: Come the Day by Fraser Handerson 1284.

Harison (2/5) (r)

10.45 Night Waves Richard Coles considers Erica

Jong's latest pronouncement on the state of feminism, what Do Women Went?

11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the second in a three-part concert featuring the National Youth

a three-part concert leaturing the National Youth-ilazz Orchestra

12.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Seens (r)

1.00 am Through the Night with Donald Madeod.

1.00 Music from 18th-cartary England. The Rose
Consort of Vids play music by Teverner, Tye,
Gibbons, Ward, Jenions, Tomfens, Byrd, Lawes
and Purcell 1.55 Stanford (Fantasia and Toccata)

2.35 Weber (Pieno Sonata No 4 in Eminor, Op
70—3.00 Bruckner (Symphony No 7 in E) 4.15
Chopen (Twelve Etudes, Op 25) 5.10 Bartok
(Dance Suite)

5-30am (FM) World News 5-30 (LW) Test Match Special Australia v England. Coverage from Sydney of the fourth day's play 5-26 (FM) Shipping 5-40 (FM) Inshore Forecast 5-45 (FM) Paryer for the Day with Lavinia Byrne 5-47 (FM) Farming Today Fursi issues, with Anna Hill 6-00 (FM only until 7.00am) Today Introduced by Sue MacGregor and James Neughtis 9-00 No Triumph, No Tragedy Peter White tells to disabled achievers in the US, beginning with the actor Christopher Reeve. See Choice (1/8) 9-30 Lean Taxes Jeremy Charles reports on the crisis facing Britan's pig farmers (1/2) 9-35 (FM) Service 9-45 (FM) Service See Choice (1/8) 10-00 Women's Hour with Martha Kearney 11-00 Nature: Insight (f) 11-30 The Galton and Strapson Radio Playhouse: Neught for Thy Comfort A tale of a suicidel man who gets a less than sympathetic reciption from the Semanitens, Steming Robert Dewes (2/4) 12-00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast 12-00 (FM) News 12-04pm You and Yours Copical 1-00 The World at One with Nick Clarke 1-00 The Archers (Ir)

3.45 This Sceptered Isle Arma Massey continues her narration of British history (r)
4.00 A Good Read The archaeologist Nick Astoniand the childcare specialist Penelogie Leach discuss three lancurite paperbacks
4.30 Shop Talk Presented by Heather Payton
5.00 PM with Clare English
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Cheese Shop Present New series of comedy stockines, with Steve Davies, Jack Firsborough and songs by Ted Ruby
7.00 The Anchers 7.15 Front Row Franche Stock assesses Gis Van Sant's remaise of Hechook's Classic thriller Psycho
7.45 Under One Roof by Michele Hanson (r)
8.00 True Colours: South Africa Today Alan Little investigates the current state of multicultural retaions in South Africa
8.40 In Touch Presented by Peter White
9.00 Case Notes Special Tracey Logan explores how science can help intertile couples and essesses the unphashors for society
9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy (r)
10.00 The World Torright
10.45 Book at Beditine: Name Part two of Emile Zola's note! Read by Julie! Stevenson
11.00 Late Night on 4: The Patrick and Mastreen starring Patrick Barlow and Inskta Starriton
11.30 Talking Pictures Russes Davies Interviews the velstan British director Ronald Nearne:
12.00 (FM) News 12.30 (FM) The Late Book: The Restraint of Beasts Gavin Mair reads part seven 12.00 (LW) Test Matich Special Australia v England Commentary from Sydney on the lifth and fine day's play of the fifth Test
12.48 (FM) Shipping 1.00 (FM) As World Sarvice

PREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. PM 97,508.8. RADIO 2. PM 88,0 90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90,2-92.4. RADIO 3. FM 92,494.5. LW 198, MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 649, LW 196 (12,46-5556m).
CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRIGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1088.

CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRIGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1088.

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3 217

An unhealthy obsession with sex for sale

o guess what Santa bought television executives for Christmas? Yes, another year's supply of prostitutes for the larder, to be used as required to season all those television dishes that lack a bit of, well, comph. To reassure those of you who feared there wasn't a hooker left in Britain who hadn't yet been filmed wrapping nappies around grown men's bottoms, or grassing them the characters (along with Claude up to the police so that they can be and Claudia Agius, an argumentare-educated in Leeds's new "Johns" School". BBC1's new docusoap, Paddington Green, launched straight into the ups and downs — so to speak — of Jackie McAuliffe's. straight into the ups and downs — runs a nearby wig shop) whom we so to speak — of Jackie McAuliffe's will be getting to know much betiffe as a transsexual prostitute in the weeks to come. You west london West London.

If television reflects something about us and our lives, then the number of hookers on television would suggest that, statistically, in the real world they must account for at least one in four women. There are so many prostitutes on at the Adelphi look about as wel-

television today that it's a wonder they're not already making enough money from television appearances to enable them to retire from the game altogether, with their pimps turning into theatrical agents instead ("she does a quick interview for fifty quid; a full docusoap, no rush, is 300 — OK guv?") The producers of this series are

hoping that Jackie will be one of tive father-and-daughter team who run a scooter shop on Edg-ware Road, and Mr Gilbert, who might say, here, "not in the biblical sense", but the evidence indicates that publicity gleaned from appearing in docusoaps invariably increases custom, even when — as in the case of Liverpool's Adelphi Hotel - the exposure made the staff

Jackie even showed us exactly where she stands when touting for business, thereby making an appearance on the Paddington Green series a far more reliable advertising shop window than sticking a card up in a telephone kiosk.

ut the oddest thing about Paddington Green is that it's not a peep into an industry; it's not aiming to give you an insight into life behind the scenes at an hotel, or at an airport, or on a cruise ship, or as a clamper. Just as there are videos which show only goldfish for people who'd like a pet but can't be bothered with the fuss of scooping out the dead goldfish every two days and buying a new one, Paddington Green is tele-vision for people who can't be bothered to go out and pick up idle chitchat from the local shopkeepers in their own neighbourhood. It's vil-lage-green television; EastEnders

REVIEW

Joseph



without the bother of a script. More prostitution on ITV in its new drama series, The Vice. Maybe one in four is an underestimate: perhaps it's more like one in two women who are on the game, which would imply that almost every male in the country is a regular punter. Pretty soon there'll be so many hookers on the box that we'll have to go out and hang around on dark street corners in order to

avoid encountering a prostitute. Ken Stort, who leads the cast as Inspector Pat Chappel of the Met's vice unit is always riveting to watch, and not just because he has one of those faces like the "before" photo in plastic surgery ads. Stru-an Rodger is also icily magnetic as the heartless and violent pimp. The script is laced with all the usual knowing fruits of research around the backstreets of Soho, presumably to justify to the taxman the entries on the production budget for visits to massage parlours. But it's certainly not a wham-bam-thank-you-mam production. If you like your foreplay slow, then The Vice moves at your kind of pace. It was sort of enjoyable, but also somehow slightly unsatisfying — perhaps this was some kind of metaphor. In BBC2's intelligent Horizon

Special - Longitude, Patrick Malahide recreated scenes from the life of John Harrison, a Lincolnshire carpenter, and the extraordinary story of his quest to solve the technological problem of longitude and thereby to save the lives of sailors whose ships kept crashing against rocks - extraordinary because this long struggle to demystify the art of navigation, which spanned decades, and which baffled some of the world's greatest minds, and which seemed so insoluble that in 1714, Parliament offered a reward of £20,000 (equivalent to £6 million today) to whoever could find longitude at sea. seemed to involve no prostitutes

liver Walston, a 57-yearold cereal farmer from Cambridgeshire who claims to have been "born with a silver spoon in just about every ori-fice", gets a £180,000 cheque from Brussels each Christmas, which he finds daft. In Against The Grain (BBC2), a new four-part squint at British farming, he made a convincing case against the subsidies enshrined in the European Union's common agricultural policy. which pays farmers not to farm. While this at first seemed a cogent argument against such subsidies. it also seemed to be a powerful argument for a new subsidy under which EU officials would be paid not to draft demented new laws.

Walston doesn't dispute that many small farmers in Britain are in trouble, but turning them into "subsidy junkies" is not the solution. He wants EU subsidies to be phased out over a five-year period, after which farmers would face the same free-market rewards and menaces as people who run small shops, or small hairdressing sa-lons, and who get no subsidy from Brussels: because while subsidies may line the farmers' wallets, the consumer gets screwed. See? I knew there just had to be a sexual angle somewhere.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breaklast (83650)... 7.00 BBC Breaklast News (T) (36679)

9.00 Kiliroy (1) (8976389) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (1) (5349259) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (7208853) 11.00 Real Rooms (7218230)

11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (I) (7295389) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1411785) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (82178) 12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (32292)

1.00 One O'Clock News; Weather (1) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (86909389) 1.40 Neighbours Harold teaches Paul the facts of life (1) (65689105)

2.05 Ironside The Chief tackles a resentful alternative theatre group following the death of an actress in suspicious circumstances (r) (7972679) 2.55 Going for a Song (8867834)
3.20 The Weather Show Stories about the

weather (T) (2298785) ... 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (5570114)
3.45 The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (9374037) 3.55 Hububb (6709018) 4.16 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (6534899) 4.35 The Really Wild Show (1924921) 5.00 Newsround (5761650) 5.10 See How They Run (6801105)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (136921) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (969) 6.30 Regional News Magazina (921) 🐔 7.00 Holiday Special 30th anniversary edificing from Australia. Jill Dando visits venues for

the Sydney Olympic Games and Kevin Woodlord goes Island-hopping off the Oueensland coast (1) (1056)
7.30 EastEnders The Mitchell family close ranks (T) (105)

8.00 Weight of the Nation Dale Winton spearheads the BBC's Fighting Fit. campaign with practical advice from the fat-buster team on lessing. weight without suffering the agony of deting (T) (3747)

Weather (T) (8327)

Weather (I) (8327)

9.30 Paddington Green A transsemal-vice girl is forced back on the game by a backlog of fires for soliciting — but reither than pay up, she decides to invest in new clothes to pull the punters. Meanwhile, safe-cracker Jason has relationship problems (T) (52056)

10.00 The New Year Storms — A 999 Special The freek storms that precised 1998 (T) (221871) 10.40 Crystal Bells Wry look at past prophets (T) (113650)

11.20 Seduced by Evil (1994) Premare.
Supernatural tale, starring Suzanne
Somers as a reporter who interviews a mysterious nomad, unaware that he is: actually a shape-shifting magician. With James B. Sikking. Directed by Tony Wharmby (T) (313308) 12.45am Death of a Cheerleader (1994)

Fact-based drama about two teenage girls whose rivalry sets them on a total collision course. Ton Spetting and Kellie:

Martin star. Directed by William A Graham (T) (6234896) 2.10 Weather (9824322)

2.15 BBC News 24 (79559896)

• For further listings see

7.00em Couri Duckule (89785) 7.30 Chris Evens (82414) 8.30 Hollywood Squares (5120) 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (53589) 10.00 Oprah Wintrey (64476) 11.00 Gullly (77940) 12.00pm Jenny Jones (86037) 1.00 Med About You (88056) 1.30

Jeonardy (99501) 2.00 Sally Jessy Rephael (42766) 3.00 Jenny Jones (96635) 4.00 Guilly (87292) 5.00 Star Tiek, Deep Space Nine (6389) 6.00 Married — With Californ (7651) 7.00

Nine (6380) 8.00 Married — With Children (3821) 8.30 Dream Team (7501) 7.00 Smpsons (7018) 7.30 Smpsons (3785) 8.00 Rescue Medics (6768) 8.30 Coppers (8501) 9.00 World's Widelst Police Videos (1850) 10.00 Greece Uncovered (28037) 17.00 Dream Team (88821) 11.30 Earth: Final Conflict (50056) 12.30am Highlander (18148) 1.30 Long Ptay (5262544)

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George of the Jungle (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Fathers' Dey (1997)

8.00pm Boudou Saved from Drowning (1902) (7546563) 8.00 Brassed Off (1906) (7550309) 10.00 The Crow (1994) (3979521) 12.00pm is Pafft Soldet (1990) (5195885) 1.35 Mail (1994) (2226506) 3.30 Bine Sky (1994) (9272273)

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BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: The Little Polar Bear (3540227) 7.05 Teletubbies (2234124) 7.30 Yog's Treasure Hunt (2527211) 7.50 Blue Peter (3199476) 8.20 Te2-Mania (9167476) 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (8486259) 8.50 The Little Polar Bear (8435143) 9.00 Calde Doke (7362414) 9.10 Phil Silvers Show (6767921) 9.35 Phil Silvers Show (5152747) 10.00 Teletubbles (90389) 10.30 FiLM: Monsieur Verdoux (91650) 12.30pm Working Lunch (30834) 1.00 Oakle Doke (73970834)

1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour Caroline Righton meets a master craftsman who draws inspiration from rivers (2795476) 2.10 Darts: World Professional Champion ship Ray Stubbs presents live coverage of the first-round ties from the Lakeside

Country Club, Frimley Green (98302921) 5.30 Cricket: The Ashes Australia v England Highlights (698)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air The family

revisit their old neighbourhood, only to find it has been destroyed (r) (1) (248853) 6.25 Heartbreek High Jet puts a damper on D'espo's lalest scheme (1) (696230) 7.10 The O Zone Whitney Houston perform

songs from hernew abour and Ultra talk about releasing their latest single, white 911 take a stroll along Brighton Pler with Jayne Middlemiss (T) (642655)

7.30 From the Edge Mik Scarlett checks out facilities for disabled visitors in New York. and Tanel Grey talks to disabled caravagners (7) (747)

8.00 University Challenge City University London takes on Balliol College, Oxford (1) (5018)

Odyssey New series explor-ing the places and flavours that have influenced the Comish chef (1) (7853) 9.00 Midgecambe and Wise The inepressible due perform their own version of The Finistones. With special guests the Beverley Sisters and Kenny Ball's Jazz Men (r) (1) (6969) 9:28 Suspended in Time (T) (882230)



Great Railway Journeys New series, lan Histop travels from Calcutta to romantic Rajasthan, via the Taj Mahai and the site of a recent nuclear bomb test (1/6) (T) (836679) 10.20 Trade Secrets Pet breeders reveal tricks of the trade (r) (7) (909766)

10.30 Newsnight introduced by Kirsty Wark (T) (845747) 11.13 Suspended in Time (T) (386834) 11.15 Derts: World Professional Championship The second round (903495)

Sport 3.30 World Motor Sport 6.30 Sports Unimited 7.30 Fish TV 8.00 Equestranism 10.00 Boxing Superbouts 11.00 Olympic Senes: Road to Nageno 11.30 Close

7.30am Fially 8.00 Live Cross-Country Sking 9.00 Live Alpine Sking 19.15 Live Cross-Country Sking 11.45 Live Alpine Sking 1.00am Live Ski-Lumping 2.30 Cross-Country Sking 4.30 Alpine Sking 5.30 Shi-Lumping 7.00 Boong 9.30 Relly 14.00 Football 12.00am Relly 12.30 Close

7.00am Crossroads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The 88 8.30 The House of
Eird 10.30 Angels 11.00 Delias 11.95
Neighbours 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00
Affet Bravo 2.00 Delias 2.55 The 68 3.55
EastEnders 4.30 Angels 8.00 Al Creekers
Greet and Small 6.00 Dynesty 7.00 May to
Docember 7.40 & Anth Visil Hot Mum 8.20
Yes, Minister 9.00 Red Dwarf IV 9.40 This
Use 10.35 NYPD Blue 11.40 The 88
12.40am Scornier 1.40 Beckso 2.35 Live
12.40am Scornier 1.40 Beckso 2.35 Live

12.40em Spender 1.40 Backup 2.35 Live at Jongleurs 3.00 Screenshop

6.00cm. Within These Walls 7.00 On the Buses 7.30 The Fern Sheet Geng 8.00 That's My Boy 8.30 Second Thoughts 9.00 Classic Coroniston Street 9.30 Entmendals Farm 10.00 thirtysomething 11.00 Heavail Paye O 12.00pm Classic Coroniston Street 12.30 Emmerdale Farm 1.00 Nearest and Dearest 1.20 Watching 2.00 thirtysomething 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Saint 5.00 Heavail Flav-O 8.00 Emmerdale Farm 6.20 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Misson; Processic Science 1.00 Lpc 8.01 Second 1.00 Misson; Processic 8.00 Lpc 8.01 Second 1.00 Misson; Processic Science 1.00 Misson; Processic Science 1.00 Misson; Processic Science 1.00 Misson; Processic 8.00 Lpc 8.01 Science 1.00 Misson; Processic 8.00 Misson; Processic

Misson: Impossible 8.00 Love Boat 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 The Brian Contey. Show 10.00 Jokens Wild 10.30 Hogan's Herose 11.00 Men and Motors

CARLTON SELECT [CABLE]

5.00pm Wher's Cooking? 5.30 Gridlock 6.00 London Bidge 6.30 Rising Damp 7.00 Boon 6.00 Motorway 6.30 Risel Life Stones 9.00 The Lipper Hard 9.30 Plying Start 10.00 Farst, Subbs Promotes 11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00ms Rising Damp 12.30 Gridlock 1.00 Close

6.00am. Bear in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons: 6.35 Gunna Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Alectio 7.35 Timon and

DISNEY CHANNEL

GRANADA PLUS

EUROSPORT

11.55 Weather (185327) 12.00am The Phil Silvers Show Bliko tries to break into TV (r) (59761) 12.30 Close

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.00em Dammation Alby (1977) (79501)
7.00 Three Women (1977) (70037) 9.00
Recidese Nights (1997) (85562) 11.00
For Hope (1996) (39414) 7.00em The Kid
(1997) (57568) 3.00 Recidens Nights
(1997) (56572) 5.00 Three Women (1977)
(55573) 7.00 The Kid (1987) (51383) 9.00
Ratfeel (1998) (33959) 11.00 Fast Money
(1995) (453211) 1.235am The Flames
(1997) (545902) 2.10 Fundango (1984)
(812308) 3.40 See No Evil, Hear Ro Evil
(1968) (632490)

4.00pm 3.10 to Yuma (1957) (8295476) 6.00 Buck Privates Come Home (1947) (765399) 8.00 The Strange Affair of Unde Harry (1945) (7658834) 10.00 100 Years — 100 Movies: Against the Grain (8894389) 10.55 Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry (1974) (75043582) 12.30am The Eighth Day (1965) (3562728) 2.90 The Two-Headed Spy (1955) (9694032) 4.05 Days of Glory (1944) (3181089)

8.00pm 36 Hours (1964) (3008834) 11.15 The. Asphall Jungle (1950) (7770940) 1:30sm The Biggest Bundle of Them All (1968) (3736964) 3.30 The Patrilled Porest (1936) (8416068)

7.00am Sports Certim 7.15 V-Mex 7.45
120 8.16 Sports Certim 8.30 Racing News
8.00 Aardoles 9.30 You'ns Onl 10.00
League Review 11.00 Mex Power 12.00pm
Aerobics 12.30 V-Mex 1.00 FA CUP 2.30
Sportist Footbel 4.30 World Windsuffing
8.00 Winssling 8.00 Sports Certim 10.15 You're Onl
10.45 Greyround Racing 10.00 Sports
Certim 10.15 You're Onl 10.45 Inside
8.0018th Footbel 11.45 Sports Certim
12.00am You're Onl 12.30 Equasirism
12.00 Sports Certim 2.45 Cose
12.00 Sports Certim 2.45 Cose
12.00 CPONETTS 2

7,00mm Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Record 8.15 Wardsorfing 8.45 Sports Centre 9.00 Live Cricket 4,00pm Cricket 630 Cricket 17.00 Feeting 11.30 Live Cricket

12.00per Wasting 100 Feb TV 200 Dicks Davies' Sporing Hences 3.00 Total

SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 3 ...

SKY CINEMA

5.30am ITN Morning News (29940) 6.00 GMTV (6091414)

9.25 Trisha (T) (2326940) 10.25 This Morning (T) (62861259) 12.15pm HTV News and Weather (T) 12.30 TTN Lunchtime News; Weather (1)

1.00 Shortland Street (24834) 1.30 Home and Away Will saves Gypsy (T)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (T) (2106969) 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep The shopping quiz (T) (521679) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (1) (2286940)

3.20 HTV News (I) (2283853) 3.25 FITV: Mopatop's Shop (2273476) 3.35 Rosie and Jim (8706650) 3.50 The Wornbles (9366018) 4.00 Cow and Chicken (9881872) 4.25 Milke and Angelo (7784132) 4.50 How II (9462124)

5.40 (TN Early Evening News; Weather (!) 5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (745969) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (1) (648899) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (953037) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (348105)

5.10 A Country Practice Tom is forced to make a decision (6380762)

7.00 Emmerdale Zak is left holding the baby (1) (6124) 7.30 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Big-prize game show (T) (501) 8.00 The Bill Deakin and Beach keep watch on a newly released kidnapper, hoping he'll lead them straight to the £300,000

6.30 The West Tonight (T) (389)



Haydn Gwynne stars as a new member of the medical team (9pm)

Peak Practice The rural crama returns for a new series. With Gary Mavers, Adrian Lukis and Haydo Gwynne (1/13) (1) (8679) 10:00 ITN News; Weather (1) (26143) 10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (160698)

10.40 Full Frontal in Flip Flops A documentary looking at British nuclists (T) (953105) 11.40 The China Syndrome (1979) The controller of a nuclear power plant discovers a potentially disastrous operational flaw — but refuses to report it. Thriller, starring Jane Fonda. Directed by James Bridges (T) (92189327)

2.00am The Haunted Fishtank Ed Hall reveiws the week's television (18612) 2.30 Highlander An Immortal terrorist stalks Richie, so MacLeod trains him in self-defence (r) (8357525)

3.25 Wish You Were Here? France and Benidorm (r) (T) (83194380) 3.55 Football Extra Football League highlights (r) (8444612) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen Behind the scenes of

CENTRAL

As HTV West except. 12.20-12.30pm Central Ne (6275211) 1.00 Headiners (24834) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9204766)

2.15-2.45 Home and Away (522308) 3.20-3.25 Central News (2283853) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6380762) 6.30-7.00 Central News; Weather (329) 10-30-10.40 Central News; Weather !160698; 3.45am Football Extra (683709)

4.45 Central Jobfinder '99 (1077877) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (4519877) ALSO CHARLES

As HTV West except: 12.15-12.27pm Westcountry News; Weather 12.27-12.30 Hiuminations (6283230)

1.00 Emmerdale (24834) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9204766) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (522308) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather

5.08 Birthday People (8880360) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6380762) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (42679) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News: West

As HTV West except:

12.15-12.30pm Meridian News; Weather (9659563) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away;

5.00 Meridian Tonight (227) 6.30-7.00 Grass Roots Special (389) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather (160698) 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (57544)

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6261018) 12-20-12-30 Anglia News and Weather (6275211) 1.00-1.35 Up Shot! (1529834) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street; 6.23 Anglia Weather (349834)

6.25-7.00 Angliz News (953037) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (265834) 10.30-10.40 Angila News and Weather (160698)

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (45229360) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47299414) 9.00 The Cosby Show (r) (18550360) 9.30 FILM: Helio Dolly (f) (52158766) 12.05pm Here's One I Made Earlier (f) (38393209) 12.30 Sesame Street (38872698) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (54636872) 1.00 Brynseren (T) (54636872) 1.15 Clwc (54631327) 1.30 FiLM: The Thief of 1.15 Chwc (54631327) 1.30 FiLM: The Thief of Bagdad (T) (99239679) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (56552105) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One Highlights (T) (56564940) 4.30 Ricki Lake (T) (56560124) 5.00 Planed Plant (87282394) 5.30 Countdown (T) (56551476) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (69430766) 6.10 Heno (T) (95132563) 7.00 Pobol y Cam (T) (75704650) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (75704650) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (56561853) 8.00 Y Sloe Gelf (T) (81882358) 8.30 Pengelli (T) (1) (81882358) 8.30 Pengelii (1) (75704605) 9.00 Cutting Edge (r) (1) (61570358) 10.00 Brookside (1) (54329766) 10.35 Mayday (1/4) (1) (36616056) 11.35 Body Story (5/5) (1) (89037230) 12.05am The Real Holiday Show (4/8) (1) (57491051) 12.35 The Mini Job: The Making of the Italian Job (1) (66024506) 1.05 The Mini Man (1) (71473273) 2.05 The Mini Years (1)

CHANNEL 4 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (4081872)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (29389) 9.00 The Cosby Show (r) (T) (5718227)
9.35 Phone Call from a Stranger (1952)
Comedy drama, with Bette Davis Jean
Negulesco directs (T) (44482056)
11.15 Earthscape (r) (6791698)

11.30 Here's One | Made Earlier (r) (T) (5230) 12.00 Sesame Street (23056) 12.30pm Bewitched (T) (58230)

1.00 Pet Rescue (r) (1) (22476) 1.30 Roots to Success (38869871) 1.50 The Fallen Idol (1948) Crime melodrama about an ambassador's son who idolises a servant accused of murder. Ralph Richardson stars.

Directed by Carol Reed (T) (61813921) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (495) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One Highlights (r) (1) (230)

4.30 Countdown (T) (1918360) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (4036018) 5.30 Pet Rescue An iguana visits (1) (766) 6.00 King of the Hill (r) (T) (679)

6.30 Home Improvement New senes. While Tim is away at sea, till finds herself forced to deal with Brad's developing interest in girls. DIY comedy, starting Tim Allen and Patricia Richardson (T) (259)

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (337360) 7.55 Cuban Faces The artist Luis Gomez discusses his work (2/5) (T) (268940) 8.00 Brookside (T) (3414)

8.30 Classic Aircraft Advances in bomber design (3/8) (T) (2921) 9.00 Cutting Edge Bizarre happenings behind the scenes of The Sport's editional office (r) (T) (9921)



10.00 Father Ted The hapless cieric makes a bid for stardom (1/6) (r) (T) (24785) 10.30 Bob and Margaret Bob comes to terms with his mortality (T) (32655)

11.00 Trial and Error Doubts surrounding a man's murder conviction (1) (32853) 12.00 Stories of Seduction (1990) Three stones based on tales by Mary McCarthy, Dorothy Parker and Ernest Hemingway. Directed by Frederic Raphael, Ker

Russell, Tony Richardson (100693) 1.35am Double Entente Tale of lesbian allure about a high-flying businesswoman who yields to temptation (f) (T) (5925457)

1.50 The Pleasure Seekers (1964) Three American women throw caution to the wind and go in search of the man of their

dreams. With Ann-Margaret. Directed by Jean Negulesco (T) (284186) 3.50 Whispers A deal psychic's gift becomes a nightmare (r) (83854728) 4.15 Lady Godiva Rides Again (1951) A

humble beauty contest winner sets out on the road to stardom, but soon discovers the seamer side of showbusiness. With Diana Dors and Pauline Stroud. Directed by Frank Launder (T) (649815)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Current events 7.00 WideWorld. Part eight. The Victorian lashion for family days at the seaside (r) (T) (9292872)

7.30 Milkshake! (9207655) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (9923785) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1363476)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (1362747) 9.00 Weather Front (r) (1386327) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6715921) 10,20 Sunset Beach Cole demands the truth (T) (2320969)

11.10 Leeza (r) (2200495) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (1366563) 12.30 Family Affairs Cat spies Annie leaving the house (r) (T) (9132292) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful

taunts Maggie (T) (9291143) 1.30 The Roseanne Show With Richard Semmons; 5 News Update (9131563) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6552563)

2.30 Good Afternoon (4751327) 3.30 A Brother's Promise: The Dan Jansen Story (TVM 1996) Premiere. True-life story of the 1994 Olympic gold medallist who promised his dying sister he would win the speed shating event for her. Sporting biopic, slaring Matt Kessler. Directed by Bill Corcoran (T) (9835018)

5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier; (r) (T) 5 News Update (6384747) 6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz (5413872)

6.30 Family Affairs Annie tells Chris they're through (T) (5404124) 7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (6563679)



The majestic creatures which have inspired Dr Joyce Poole (7.30pm)

7.30 Champions of the Wild Profile of lifelong elephant researcher Dr Joyce Poole; (T) 5 News Update (5400308) 8.00 Survivor How a 17-year-old girl survived a plane crash in the heart of the Peruvian jungle (r) (T) 5 News Update (5731476) 9.00 Sweet Temptation (TVM 1996) A

teenager plays a dangerous game by spending the night in the arms of her spending the hight in the arms of her mother's young boyfriend, leading to tragic consequences for all concerned. Erotic drama, starring Beverly D'Angelo, Rob Estes and Ted Shackleford. Directed by Ron Lagomarsino (T) (12503360) 10.50 Two New series. Mystery thriller, starring Michael Easton as a professor whose life

is torn apart by a psychopathic livin brother bent on destroying him (4524921) 11.45 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and 12.25am Live and Dangerous John Emburey reviews the fifth Ashes Test (52611254)

Asian Football Show Weekly round-up (7777457) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Bobby accuses Rick of attempted rape and Coleen is caught the worse for drink (3229544)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9207439)

PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL



Ewan McGregor and Tara Fitzgerald star in Mark Herman's bittersweet comedy drama Brassed Off (FitmFour, 8pm)

Pumbes 8.00 101 Dalmalans 8.25 Classic Toons 8.30 Hercules 9.00 Art Aldack 9.15 Nac's New! 9.30 Recess 9.45 Pepper Arn 10.00 Boy Meets World 10.30 Smart Guy 11.00 Teen Angel 11.30 Fleath Forward 12.006m Doug 12.30 Oncolaus 1.00 FLLE Enid Bijston's See of Adventure 2.20 Classic Toons 2.30 New Winne the Pooh 3.00 Little Memaid 3.30 Timon and Pumbes 3.45 101 Dalmatisms 4.10 Hercules 4.40 Art Attack 5.00 Smart Guy 3.30 Recess 8.45 Pepper Arn 6.00 Wonder Years 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Honey I Strunk the Kds 7.50 Classic Toons 8.00 FLLE Reach (1968) 9.30 Norme Improve-Pil. Resh (1998) 9.30 Nome Ingrove-ment 10.00 Deposium 10.30 Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Quinn 12.00em Close

 S.00am Power Pangers Turbo 7.00 Mortal Korsbat 7.25 Oggy and the Cockpachas 7.30 Donley Kong County 8.00 Gooseburnes 8.25 Sem and Max.8.25 Spedeman 8.00 X-Men 8.25 Fentantic Four 9.30 The Incredible Hulls 10.15 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Cockpachas 10.55 The Mouse and the Morsler 11.05 Eek Stravagenza

11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to Hart 12.05pm Sam and Mar 12.20 Domley Kong Country 1.00 Mougle The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.50 Spiderman 2.15 X-Men 2.46 Fantastic Four 3.05 Incredible Hull 3.30 Roy and Lisa's Big Ride 3.35 Montal Kombiel 4.00 Spiderman 4.25 Montal from 1.05 Mintal New Adventure of June Brigh 4.65 Mintal Now Adventures of Jungle Book 4,50 Horro to Reni 6,00 Goosebumps 5,25 Earle Indiane 8,50 Oggy and the Cockroache 5,55 Donkey Kong County 625 Sam and Mars 6,50 Earle Stravogance 7,00 Close NICKELODEON

7.00am The Secret World of Alex Mask 1.40pm The Journey of Alen Strenge 2.00 The Secret World of Alex Mack 2.30 Kenen and Kel 3.00 Cansea Explains it Al 3.30 Kabbami 4.00 Hey Arnold 4.30 Regrals 5.00 Sister Sister 5.30 Kenan and Kel 8.00 TROUBLE

Tempest 10.00 Hollyoeks 10.30 Echo Port 11.00 Sweet Velley High 11.30 Celiforne Diesers 12.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Ar 12.30 In the House 1.00 Tempest 2.00 Hollyceks 2.30 Echo Port Tempest 2.00 Holycaks 2.30 Ecto Port 3.00 Ready or Not 3.30 Cay Guys 4.00 The Frush Prince of Bel-Arr 4.30 In the House 5.00 Saved by the Belt The New Class 5.30 Sweet Valley High 6.00 Hang Time 6.30 Rush 6.45 Bangs 7.00 USA High CHALLENGE TV 5.00pm The Games Room 5.15 Crosswits 5.45 The Games Room 6.00 Family Fortunes 6.30 The Games Room 6.45 Catchphrase 7.15 The Games Room 7.25 100 Per Cent 7.55 The Crystal Maze 9.00

The Games Room 8.15 Style I Lucky 9.45 The Games Room 10.00 Endurance Uk 10.30 The Cooler 11.00 Carnal Knowledge 12.00em Style I Lucky 12.30 Spkl Second 1,00 3-2-1 2,00 Love at First Sight 2,30 Sauda 3,00 Endurance UK 3,30 Blockbusters 4,00 Fifteen-to-One 4,30 Don't Drink the Water 5,00 Screenshop BRAVO 8.00pm The ATeam 9.00 LAPD 9.30 Cops 10.00 Eureme Champurship Westing 10.30 Scary Sex 11.00 FBLM: Rollerball (1975) 1.15am Sex Bytes 1.45 Scary Sex 2.15 Edward Champorship Vitesting 2.45 Short 3.00 FBLM: The Fly II (1989) 5.00 LAPD 5.30 Bushido 6.00 Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cheless 7.30 Desmond's 8.00 Rossanne 8.30 Just Shool Me 9.00 Cybil 9.30 Servield 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Festival of Fun 1 11.30 The Lerry Sanders Strow 12.00em Late Night with Devid Leiterman 1.00 Text 1.30 The Critic 2.00 Dr Kerz 2.30 Soep 3.00 Wings 3.30 Nightstand 4.00 Close THE SCHFI CHANNEL

SATELLITE; Spin-MIDNIGHT ONLY

SATELLITE: Spin-MiDNIGHT ONLY
7.30am Boombeg Information Television
8.06 Sightings 9.00 Euck Rogers in the
25th Century 10.06 Cushtum Leap 11.00
Dark Steedows 11.30 New Alfred Hichcock
12.00pm The Twilight Zone 12.30 Teles of
the Unexpected 1.00 Tales of the
Unexpected 1.30 Teles of the Unexpected
2.00 Amazing Stores 2.30 Mysteries.
Magic and Miracles 3.00 Buck Rogers in
the 25th Contray 4.00 The Incredible Hulk
5.00 Sightings 6.00 Time Trax 7.00
Cushtum Leap 8.00 V 9.00 Leox 10.00

4.00 Close HOME & LEISURE

8.00am Today's Gourner 8.30 Greham kerr 7.00 Cratiwise 7.30 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Beby Story 8.00 Simply Persting 9.25 The Home and Leisure House 9.30 Gorden Rescue 10.00 Garden Doctors 10.30 Cooksbout 10.00 Garden Boctors 10.30 Cooksbout with Greg and Mex. 11.00 Two's Coursey — Get Study in 11.30 Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 12.00pm Australia's Strangest Home Improvements 12.30 Dong it Union 1.00 Cur House 1.30 Hometime 2.00 Wood Wizard 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vite 3.00 This Old House with Sleve and Norm 3.30 Gr Fishing.

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hurri Fishing Adventures 4.30 Wolker's Word 5.00 Connections 2 by James Burke 5.30 Junessica 6.00 Arimol Doctor 6.30 Hunters. Tooth and Claw 7.30 Beyond 2000 8.00 Great Essapes 8.30 Quantum. Southern Ocean Survival 9.00 Trailbiszers 10.00 Anterctica 11.00 Firepower 2000 12.00sm Titanto Discovered 1.00 Connections 2 by James Burke 1.30 Ancient Warners 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Gong Wild With Jeti Corwn: Los Angeles 12.30 Wild at Heart 1.00 Natuse Wetch with Julien Petitler 1.30 Australia Wild 2.00 Breed Alf About it 2.30 Human/Natuse 3.30 Herry's Practice 4.00 Jack Herna's Zoo Life 4.30 Ammal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Australia Wild 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 6.30 Lasse 7.00 Rediscovery of the World New Zeeland 8.00 Ammal Doctor 8.30 Totally Australia: A Fresh View 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 The Last Paradises: Kenha 10.30 Animal Descrives 11.00 Affaird TV 10.30 Animal Detectives 11.00 AF-Bird TV 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00em Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Nepel, Life Among the Tigers 7.30 Antong the Baboons 8.00 Nature's Bite: Serpent's Delight 8.30 Nature's Bite Snekebael 9.00 Nature's Bite Piranhal 9.30 Nature's Boe. Beer Attack 10.00 Nature's Bite. Realm of the Alligator 11.00 Nature's Biter Teeth of Death 12.00am The Shark Files. Alman Shark Satari

4,00pm The World al War Distant War 5.00 The Ocean Liners 8.00 Murranes: Lend of the Pharachs 7.00 Biography Julius

CARLTON FOOD [CABLE]

9,00em Food Network Daily 9.30 Food for Thought 10.00 The Green Gournet 10.30 Worrall Thompson Cooks 11.00 What's Cooking? 11.30 Coxon's Witcher College 12,00em Food Network Daily 12.30 Surpase Chels 1.06 Food for Thought 1.30 Department Medicin Review 2.00 Ches Rose Thoroughly Modern Brisis 2.00 Chez Bruno 2.30 Food Network Delly 3.00 Winter Nosh 3.30 Coxon's Kitchen College 4.00 Russie's Real Cooks 4.30 Turner's Tour of Hong Kong 5.00 Close

LIVING

6.00em Trny and Crew 8.20 Philbert the Frog 6.30 Johnson and Friends 6.45 Trny Tales 6.50 Polika Doi Shorts 7.00 Practical Tates 6.50 Polika Dol Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.06 Professor Bubble 7.30 Carliou 7.35 Bug Aleri 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Friends 9.30 Try Tates 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 8.00 Der Show 9.30 The Roseame Show 10.00 The Jeny Springer Show 10.50 Maury Powch 11.40 Brooksade 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babes 1.40 Beyond Belset Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 The Jeny Springer Show 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rodanda 8.40 Ready, Stoady, Cook 6.15 The Jeny Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.00 Murder Call 9.00 FILIAR Choless of the Heart (1983) 11.00 Sex Life Down Under ZEE TV

5.30bent Music Time 6.00 Aap Ki Farmach 6.30 Uales Uthap Shoy 7.00 Festh 7.80 Daly News 8.00 Shotgun Show 8.30 Selazah 9.00 Himalaya's Hast 10.00 Droop Mein Saw 11.00 Khana Khazana 11.30 Parampara 12.00ben FILM: Bengali Morfac Purbrut Priye 3.00 Zee Bangla 3.30 Cne Magic 4.00 Campus 4.30 Zee Top 10 5.30 Aaphthwad 6.00 Liberty 1-10 6.30 Super 7 Muqaba 7.30 Chalo Cinema 6.00 News Bulletin 8.30 Darawa 9.00 De Aur Do Paanich 9.30 Zangeren 10.30 The X Do Pasach 9.30 Zanjeden 10.30 The X Zone 12.00am News Bulletin 12.30 Palastan Business Week 1.00 Zee Bangta

SKY PREMIER
6.00wn Picture Perfect (1996)
82203143) 7.45 Moby Dick (1997)
82256230) 16.15 The Long Walk Home
1989) (947308) 12.15pm The Directors'
Ron Moward (840501) 1.15 Holymond Buzz
8177289) 1.50 The Fifth Electers' (1997)
(73907389) 3.55 Picture Perfect (1986)
(431872) 5.30 Moby Dick (1997) (434037)
8.00 The Fifth Electers' (1997) (434037)
10.00 Last Man Standing (1986)
(229669) 11.45 Another 48 Hours (1996)
892203) 1.20am Blood and Wine (1996)
(89270) 3.06 Carriers (1897) (20824)
4.35 The Directors: Ron Howard (1978167)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 38

Owens comes good at the last for San Francisco 49ers

SPORT

Henman roars back into action in Doha



TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1999

Wiseman's departure signals change

FA prepares for radical restructuring

By MATT DICKINSON

THERE was so much spin-doctored talk of "fresh dawns" and "visions for the millennium" in Lancaster Gate vesterday that it might have been a press conference for new Labour. This hailing of a glorious age, though, came from the modernising vanguard of the Football Association, who barely gave Keith Wiseman time to head back to Southampton and obscurity before they launched their reformist

Wiseman resigned as chairman of the FA at 1.10pm, finally accepting that he had been outflanked by his opponents who regarded him as an ineffectual leader on the domestic, never mind the world, stage. His decision to step down was unanimously accepted by the 91-member FA Council, who will find that they are the next targets for the modernisers after the culling of Wiseman and Graham Kelly, the former chief executive. Less than four hours after

Wiseman's resignation, those who would succeed him were gathered in a hotel describing how the new leader must be a man of integrity and vision if the FA is to be transformed from its cumbersome committee structure into a streamlined business belitting its mul-

timillion-pound turnover. A working party is already on the verge of publishing a report as to how the full council. with an average age of 64, can be whittled down into an effective unit of a dozen or so. The new chairman may be paid for the first time in the FA's

Who that will be is a quesuntil a vote by the FA Council in June, thereby guaranteeing more than five months of political manoeuvering. Geoff Thompson, the vice-chairman, will head the FA until the sum-

TIMES

No 1606

1 Paris, Drumroll, Rhenish

for example (8) 2 Two-dot stop (5)

13 Cartoon maker (8)

18 A wren; a spinning frame (5)

BOOKSHOP

14 This evening (7)

20 Carry, wield (4)

food (4)

16 Prize (6)

ACROSS: | Army 3 Frame-up 8 Cantata 9 Sibyl 10 Sprat

11 Hampden 13 Diacresis 17 Layette 19 Ionic 20 Train

DOWN: 1 Access 2 Man Friday 3 Featherweight 4 Assam

NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE:

is Two Creamonds (Bouk 7-629)). The Times Creamonds (Bouk 20 Cryptic-629)). The mind Creamonds Bouk 3 is available to Times readers for just 4 (RRPCA99) while sup-from The Times Boukshop.

5 Ebb 6 Pylons 7 Tantra 12 Disengage 14 Skinny

ACROSS

(1588) (8)

21 In summary (7)

7 Being always 'ill' (12)

9 Intuitive sympathy (7) 10 Services chaptain (5)

19 Indian police baton (5)

22 Learn to master (3,3,4,2)

SOLUTION TO NO 1605

22 Gunwale 23 Hot seat 24 Term

15 Flitch 16 Scream 18 Tense 21 Ant

THE SECTIMES

11 Ring: a croquet target (4) 12 Always given similar role (8)

15 Where Drake played bowls

mer and may now prove the front-runner to succeed Wiseman. As secretary of the Sheffield and Hallamshire County FA. Thompson's support is based in the shires, which still hold 60 per cent of the seats on

the full council. With their influence under increasing threat from the professional game — as represented by Dave Richards, chairman of Sheffield Wednesday. David Sheepshanks, chairman of Ipswich Town, and David Dein, vice-chairman of Arsenal - the counties may engineer Thompson in as chairman to ensure that they have a proper say in the radical changes that are inevitable.

Sheepshanks, by far the most likely alternative to Thompson, will need to use all his Old Etonian charm over the next five months to con-

Blatter's new bid. Fantasy Football.

vince them that he is acting in their best interests rather than those of the leading clubs. Who will succeed Kelly as

chief executive may take even longer to determine. The position will be advertised this week, but Thompson accepted yesterday that it is unlikely that an appointment will be made before the chairmanship is resolved in June.

Whoever becomes chair-man and chief executive, they will preside over a revolution at the FA. "Today represents the beginning of a new dawn for the FA." Sheepshanks said, his thoughts echoed by Thompright direction we will die," Thompson said. "We may have had a hundred or more years of operating on the same lines, but we are now moving into a new millennium and

TWO

need to move forward with a more businesslike approach.

The new chairman must have integrity, leadership and vision. He must also have the ability to convince the present members of the council that there is going to be a change." That may be a bit like persuading turkeys to vote for Christmas, but Kelly and Wiseman will testify that the new movers and shakers at the FA are ruthless in their methods.

The new chairman will also. according to Thompson, have "to build bridges with Fifa, Uefa and the Home Counties" after the cash-for-votes controversy that cost Wiseman and Kelly their jobs. "It was a very grave error of judgment by both of them," Thompson said of the unauthorised £ 4.2 million payment to the FA of

At the full council meeting yesterday, Wiseman spoke persuasively in his own defence, as should be expected from a solicitor, for 65 minutes. Once the debate was opened to the floor, however, the counter-arguments came thick and fast, with Thompson, Dein and Sheepshanks among the doz-en councillors who spoke against the departing chair-

"I have achieved my objective in providing the council with a full explanation of the events which have been the subject of so much publicity," Wiseman said. "I am grateful that they felt able to unanimously record that in accenting my resignation, they wished to make it clear that no aspersions were cast on my integrity or honesty. That means

With that, Wiseman left and the race to succeed him began. The only declared candidate is Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, whose outspokenness has already ensured the failure of his campaign. "Many of the comments I have seen attributed to him have been a masterpiece of demotivation of FA staff," Frank Pattison, a moderniser from the Durham



Wiseman heads back to Southampton after resigning as chairman of the Foothall Association yesterday

Power vacuum that leaves

England looking isolated John Wiseman from the Football Associaman to be forced out of office in the organisation's 135-year history, is being presented as an act of unification, interesting. We are told that Wiseman's resignation must imply no aspersion of his honesty or

integrity.

Now, after the resignation ast month of the chief executive, Graham Kelly, Lancaster Gate is shorn of its two senior executives. And no one is to blame, except the media. They, in Wiseman's parting words, "wildly and wholly inaccurately reported what was going on behind the scenes.

In truth, Wiseman's inept 3 Fond of conversation (6) 4 Tiny offcut: fragment, extract scheming has left a legacy of an English game lacerated with division, with Glenn Hod-5 Raised; sounds like staple die vulnerable as national coach. There is virtually open 6 (Hard struggle) to cause weawarfare between the men of riness, damage (4,3,4) 8 Island chain (11) commerce of the FA Carling Premiership clubs, whose intolerance of rule by amateurs is well documented.

They, and indeed their representatives within the FA, are more intent on the stock market fluctuations of the share price of their clubs than the wider duty Lancaster Gate must have for football at large. The Premiership clubs are no more likely to give the breath of life to those one rung beneath them than countenance a share of of football's ever-increasing revenues being spent to insure the welfare of a game played by millions on sports

grounds and parks. As if that is not enough. There is also the internecine fighting even within the FA Ex-

Rob Hughes says upheavals have left the FA split and devoid of influence on the international stage

been speaking for weeks of his willingness to sweep away sleaze and the archaic structures within the FA. He fell siient yesterday. Temporarily, no doubt. But David Sheep-shanks, the chairman of Ipswich, did his best in a supporting role to speak of unity and a new determination, to drive

the national game forward. One almost immediate dilemma is how those temporarily charged with leadership can restore respect for the word of the FA, specifically among the 24 executive members of Fifa, the world governing body. Those members hold the votes for the World Cup in 2006, although if the Fifz president, Sepp Blatter, gets his way there will be biennial World Cups, and with so few countries able to cope with the bloated 64-game finals, England may have less to worry about

than we ever dreamt. It was the misguided efforts of Wiseman, and the limp acquiescence to his methods by Kelly, that brought the pair down. Wiseman, correct in believing that England crucially lacked standing and influence on international committees, made unauthorised payments to the FA of Wales in what he saw as an attempt to to get their help in gaining a seat on the Fifa executive. It would be fascinating to hear the re-sponse of some members when they, knowing precisely the truth, receive deputations from Lancaster Gate attempt-

word of an English Football Assocation chairman can, from now on, be trusted with-

out hesitation. "Those of us who hold temporary responsibility," said David Davies who has replaced Kelly until a successor is found, "know what has to be done and won't be found want-

Words are Davies' forte. So is presentation. The Govern-ment may be leaking spin doctors, the FA is promoting them. Davies was educated at Sheffield University, and his "temporary" chairman, the



Thompson, will not be found wanting in terms of directness or boldness. Thompson, in-deed, might well have been the FA Council's first choice when they voted for Wiseman. He is a man of the County FA structures, a barrister, a wicketkeeper of no mean repute, a man who will neither duck the bouncers nor drop what he is

entrusted to hold. Nevertheless, the fact that the FA, in its usual unwieldy manner, will not select a chairman until June, leaves something of a void for the first six months of a crucial year for

lenge Cup.

No ICC cash to help umpire system

By Our Sports Staff

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THE International Cricket Council (ICC) is refusing to give financial backing to any ing the third umpire system.

The problem was highlight ed during the final Ashes Test between Australia and Eng land at Sydney yesterday when Steve Taufel, the thin umpire, failed to give Michae Slater, the Australia oper run out when he appeared to be short of his ground. State: on 35 at the time, went on a make 123.

The ICC, however, reject pump money into a scheme to set up four fixed cameras level with the wickets at each side

of the ground.
"We're not looking to fund
it at this stage." Clive Hitchcock, the ICC cricket operations manager, said. "There's a huge cost involved. Some countries are going down that road and providing square angle cameras at each end.

It's something that were working on because some countries provide better facili-ties than others. South Africa have square on cameras but their project has received pri-vate sponsorship. We're look-ing to see if we can make it standard across the board. But it is the responsibility of the home board to provide camera angles in liaison with the host broadcaster."

Television replays appeared to confirm that Stater was short of his crease after the stumps were broken by Dean Headley's direct hit from deep mid-on. He was giv-en not out because Tanfel did not have the benefit of a square-on camera but even 🚯 the Australian opener believes it is time for more cameras to be used to stop similar controversies.

"If you're going to have the third umpire, then get the cameras in place so it's conclucamera on the other side of the ground square-on, there's no doubt you would know one way or the other. The third tumpire can only make a judgment on what he sees at

Hitchcock added: "When the third umpire makes his decision, he must be 100 per cent sure that the batsman is out and I'm sure the he applied

that in Salter's case." So you haven't claimed on your home insurance recently? with Legal & General Our home insurance gives you a no-claims discount and a range of valuable benefits. Phone now for your individual quotation. Full written details available on request. tree pen when you call 0500 66 55 55 8am - 8pm Weekdays, 9am - 1pm Saturday Please quote code 7989-7P when you For your protection calls are usually recorded and Visit our website at www.landG.com trust us to deliver

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canvassing for World Cup We have today closed a chapter, a nurbulent and per-sonally painful one to all involved," asserted Davies . It is not closed, for many who care deeply about the honour, as well as the profit making of England's expanding game. This has to be a new beginning. Lancaster Gate has never been a place for clean or concise decision-making. Whoever emerges in charge will have a deuce of a job restoring the confidence of the public at home and winning a cutthroat battle for credibility abroad. David Dein, the Arsenal vice-chairman, who knows a little more than most about operating in the corridors of power promised: "It's onwards and upwards now." Whether his own hat was in the ring for a share of that leadership he didn't say. He was onwards and upwards to Preston, where his team were competiting in the oldest and most plorious contest of them all, the Fnothall Association Chal-

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